



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Takeshita on Return of Soviet-Held Islands

*OW070749 Tokyo KYODO in English 0729 GMT
7 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita Sunday vowed efforts for the return of four Soviet-held Japanese islands located off Hokkaido and to establish stable ties with Moscow.

Takeshita reiterated Japan's firm resolve to regain the islands which he described as "inherent parts of the country."

He spoke at a government-sponsored rally in Tokyo marking the February 7 "Northern Territories Day," the eighth since 1981.

Takeshita deplored that the Soviet Union still controls the islands—Etorofu, Kunashiri and Shikotan Islands and the Habomai group—which the Russians seized in the closing days of World War II.

The prime minister pledged to continue persistent negotiations with the Soviet Union to call for the return of the territories and to conclude a peace treaty.

Meanwhile, Radio Moscow accused Japan of trying to publicize an impression that the Soviet Union unfairly occupied the islands.

The state-run radio, monitored Saturday night, repeated Moscow's argument that there exists no territorial dispute between Japan and the Soviet Union.

Japan's campaigns calling for the return of the islands are hostile to the Soviet Union and appear to be an open political threat, it said.

Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno also addressed some 1,500 participants in the rally, saying that as long as the Soviet Union occupies the islands no truly mutual understanding can be established between the two countries.

Uno, mentioning Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's visit to Japan expected in the latter half of this year, said he will tell his counterpart that a solution to the territorial issue is a prerequisite to promote relations between Japan and the Soviet Union.

Among other speakers at the rally were House of Representatives Speaker Kenzaburo Hara, House of Councilors President Masaaki Fujita and Management and Coordination Agency Director General Osamu Takatori.

The Soviet occupation of the islands has been a long-standing obstacle to Japan-Soviet relations, diplomatic sources said.

In the 1986 joint communique, Shevardnadze and Japan's then Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe agreed to continue negotiations over "problems unsettled after the war" which Japan claims include the northern islands.

The agreement appeared to be a Soviet concession as Moscow had refused for a long time to discuss the territorial issue, the sources said.

Shevardnadze, however, told reporters at that time his country's position has not changed on the issue despite the agreement.

Late last month, Soviet business leader Vladislav L. Malkevich told Uno that Shevardnadze will visit Japan in the latter half of 1988. Malkevich, president of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry, attended a Japan-Soviet business forum held in Tokyo January 27 to February 2.

Shevardnadze's visit to Tokyo, the second if realized, is expected to pave the way for a visit by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the sources said.

Takeshita Responds to U.S. Warships Issue

*OW061221 Tokyo KYODO in English 2033 GMT
6 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita said Saturday that Japan can propose consultations with the United States to discuss problems concerning bilateral security arrangements which include an American nuclear armament issue.

The prime minister presented the position at a session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, modifying an earlier one that denied Japan could propose such consultations.

Takeshita, however, said the Japanese Government will not propose to hold such consultations at this stage in view of firm relationship of mutual trust between Japan and the U.S.

Takeshita responded to an opposition questioner who urged the government to verify if American warships entering Japan are armed with nuclear weapons.

Tetsu Ueda, a member of the top opposition Japan Socialist Party, accepted the fresh government position and resumed questioning.

Business was halted in the morning after Ueda refused to continue questioning, dissatisfied with the government rejection of his call that the government should propose consultations with the U.S. to inspect U.S. warships suspected of carrying nuclear weapons.

Government sources said the prime minister's position is compatible with the past government view on the matter.

Japan cannot question the U.S. about presence of nuclear arms aboard its U.S. warships individually but Japan can call Washington's attention to Japan's nonnuclear policy banning the manufacture or possession of nuclear weapons or allowing them to be brought into Japan, the sources said.

Then Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe urged U.S. Ambassador Mike Mansfield in 1983 to abide by prior consultations when the aircraft carrier Enterprise entered Yokosuka Base and the U.S. Air Force began deploying F-16 fighters at Misawa base in Aomori Prefecture.

Diplomatic notes on the security treaty say "major changes in the deployment into Japan of U.S. forces and in their equipment and the use of facilities in Japan shall be the subject of prior consultation with the Japanese Government."

Ueda expressed concern about a Japan-U.S. joint study on how the U.S. can reinforce rapidly its forces already stationed in Japan in the event of an attack on Japan.

Defense Agency Director General Tsutomu Kawara and U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci agreed in a meeting in Washington in January to start the joint study.

Ueda asked whether prepositioned overseas material configured to unit sets (POMCUS), in which the U.S. will stockpile heavy arms on Japanese soil, will be on the agenda.

Kawara said POMCUS did not come up during the meeting and that it will take two or three years to complete the study.

Seiki Nishihiro, chief of the agency's Defense Policy Bureau, told the Diet that POMCUS is an effective measure and that he hopes to discuss it.

Nishihiro also said the next midterm defense buildup program starting in fiscal 1990 will be on the agenda at National Defense Council session this year and that it will take more than one year to draw up a draft program.

Prime Minister Instructs Cabinet on COCOM
OW060800 Tokyo KYODO in English 0522 GMT
6 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita instructed his Cabinet Saturday to prevent a recurrence of exports to communist countries in violation of COCOM [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] regulations, government officials said.

Takeshita issued the directive at a meeting of seven cabinet members concerned with COCOM affairs. Liberal Democratic Party Secretary General Shintaro Abe also attended the session.

Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno told the meeting he deplores U.S. legislation which called for a punitive action against foreign firms violating Coordinating Committee rules.

International Trade and Industry Minister Hajime Tamura briefed the session on MITI's new export control guidelines aimed at preventing a recurrence of COCOM violations, the officials said.

Toshiba Machine Co., a subsidiary of Japan's No. 2 General electric machinery maker Toshiba Corp., was accused last year of exporting to the Soviet Union its sophisticated milling machines which U.S. officials said made Soviet submarines quieter, making them harder to detect.

The deal ran counter to COCOM (Coordinating Committee) regulations which control trade with communist countries.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi chaired the session which was also attended by Justice Minister Yukio Hayashita, Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, Defense Agency Director General Tsutomu Kawara and Home Affairs Minister Seiroku Kajiyama, who is concurrently chairman of the National Public Safety Commission.

KAL Bombing Suspect Describes Female 'Tutor'
OW071147 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT
7 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 7 KYODO—The Japanese woman tutor of Kim Hyon-hui, a self-confessed North Korean agent who said she bombed a Korean Air (KAL) airliner last November, was abducted to North Korea from Japan by boat around 1979, the National Police Agency [NPA] said Sunday.

The NPA announced the results of investigations by Japanese investigators who returned home earlier Sunday from South Korea after questioning Kim, 26, on the KAL incident.

The NPA said Kim's tutor, called "Li Un-hye," was born in Tokyo on July 5, 1957, and left two children in Japan when abducted while she was taking a walk on a Japanese coasted area, the NPA said.

She was divorced in Japan and had 3-year-old son and a one-year-old daughter at the time of her abduction, the NPA said.

However, the tutor's Japanese name was not known, the NPA said.

According to the investigators, the tutor spoke Japanese with no regional accent and was believed to have grown up in or around Tokyo.

They also quoted Kim as saying her tutor had often wished in tears to return to Japan and see her children when she was drunk.

The NPA will create a team Monday for investigation in Japan to identify the woman.

The Japanese investigators questioned Kim for three hours last Thursday in the presence of South Korean authorities, the NPA said.

The tutor was 165 centimeters tall and 56 kilograms in weight with a squarish face and dark complexion, the NPA said.

Kim was also quoted as saying she had an impression that her tutor was a senior high school graduate.

The NPA said Kim received personal instruction in the Japanese language and manners from the tutor.

Kim said she remembered her tutor's birthday as a party was held for her on the day after Kim began training as an agent on July 4, 1981, the NPA said.

The NPA did not say how Kim obtained a forged Japanese passport under the name of Mayumi Hachiya.

The NPA also said the Japanese investigators could not obtain key information to identify Kim's male companion, Kim Sung-il, 70, who committed suicide in Bahrain.

Obuchi on Alleged Abduction

OW080455 Tokyo KYODO in English 042 GMT
8 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 KYODO—Japan will take action "cautiously and seriously" after establishing the truth about allegations that a Japanese woman abducted to North Korea acted as tutor to North Korean agents, Government Spokesman Keizo Obuchi said Monday.

Obuchi's comment followed reports that a self-confessed North Korean agent was coached in the Japanese language and customs by a Tokyo woman who was abducted and taken to North Korea from Japan by boat around 1979.

Obuchi, chief cabinet secretary, told reporters he had received a report that Japanese investigators will form a project team to establish the identity of the Japanese women.

Kim Hyon-hui, the North Korean agent who admitted helping to plant a bomb on a Korean air jetliner last November, posed as a Japanese and traveled on a forged Japanese passport.

Obuchi said Japanese investigators will start work to identify Kim's tutor, called "Li Un-hye," after analyzing information obtained from Kim.

Uno To Call for Reduced South African Trade
OW061419 Tokyo KYODO in English 0809 GMT
6 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno will ask Japanese business leaders February 26 to reduce trade with South Africa to deflect growing international criticism of Japan's alleged indirect economic support of that nation's apartheid regime, ministry officials said Saturday.

Uno will meet with Eishiro Saito, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren)—a powerful big-business group—and other Keidanren leaders to convey the ministry's concern over the high level of trade volume, the officials said.

According to Finance Ministry statistics, Japan's two-way trade with South Africa in 1987 increased 19 percent to 4.27 billion dollars from the preceding year's 3.59 billion dollars, partly due to the yen's higher value. In yen terms, the trade volume rose 2 percent to 620 billion yen.

Japan outpaced the United States in 1986 to become South Africa's largest trading partner. Its trade with South Africa during that year amounted to 3.59 billion dollars, compared with the 3.52 billion dollars trade by the U.S.

During the first seven months of 1987, Japan again led trading with South Africa with its two-way trade with the nation coming to 2.23 billion dollars, followed by West Germany with 1.98 billion dollars, and the U.S. with 1.43 billion dollars.

The U.S. House of Representatives black caucus denounced Japan Wednesday for increasing trade with South Africa and said it will send a letter of protest to Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

The caucus members and some House Foreign Affairs Committee members are currently seeking sanctions to pressure Japan to reduce its trade with South Africa, according to congressional sources.

The U.S. Congress passed the 1986 Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act, which calls for sanctions against countries that take up trade with South Africa abandoned by U.S. companies. The U.S. Government has not yet invoked the law.

On January 28, Takashi Onda, director of the Foreign Ministry's Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau visited Keidanren and asked its Vice Chairman Niha-chiro Hanamura to hold down Japan's trade with South Africa.

Although Japan bans direct investment by Japanese firms in South Africa and restricts diplomatic ties to the consular level, Japan's trade with South Africa has been increasing in recent years.

Joseph Garba, chairman of the United Nations Committee Against Apartheid, issued a statement Friday accusing Japan of becoming "the apartheid regime's number one trading partner," and thus supporting it.

Uno Responds to Prices Plea From Embassies
OW080635 Tokyo KYODO in English 0611 GMT
8 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 KYODO—Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno promised Monday to take some action to help the diplomatic corps in Tokyo solve problems caused by skyrocketing property prices, Liberal Democratic Party sources said.

Uno told a meeting of government and LDP leaders that he is worried about suggestions by some diplomatic establishments in Tokyo that they may have to move to neighboring countries.

The foreign minister was responding to a call by LDP Secretary General Shintaro Abe, who urged the government to offer some relief measures, the sources said.

Envoys from Greece, the Ivory Coast, Lebanon and Nicaragua appealed to Tokyo Governor Shunichi Suzuki on January 29 for reasonably priced land allotments for embassies.

Abe promised Nicaraguan Ambassador Jorge Huezo Castrillo in a meeting last week that he would support an appeal from more than 50 developing countries' embassies for help in overcoming high land and property prices.

LDP's Hamada Calls JCP Chief 'Murderer'
OW080349 Tokyo KYODO in English 0304 GMT
8 Feb 83

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 KYODO—Ruling and opposition parties failed Monday to agree to resume a House of Representatives Budget Committee session which was halted when the committee chairman called Japan Communist Party leader Kenji Miyamoto a "murderer" last weekend.

Representatives of both camps continued backroom negotiations during the morning but failed to agree on whether disciplinary action should be taken against Koichi Hamada, the committee chairman.

During Saturday's session, Hamada, a member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, repeatedly blocked JCP questioner Seiji Masamori from continuing his questions and denounced JCP leader Miyamoto for allegedly killing a fellow party member in the 1930's.

The JCP, angered by Hamada's remarks, asked Lower House Speaker Kenzaburo Hara later in the day to order remarks deleted from official records and to relieve him of his duties.

Diet business is expected to remain stalled throughout Monday because Hamada has made it clear he has no intention of making an apology, Diet sources said.

The House Budget Committee was originally scheduled to begin a two-day session Monday to discuss a 2,033.9 billion yen supplementary budget for fiscal 1987, which ends March 31.

Miyamoto, chairman of the JCP Central Committee, was convicted of conspiring to beat and kick a JCP member in 1933 who later died. The party had believed the dead man was a police agent.

Miyamoto's sentence of life imprisonment was annulled under an imperial decree issued after Japan accepted the Potsdam Declaration following the end of World War II.

Test Scheduled for New H-2 Rocket Booster
OW061424 Tokyo KYODO in English 0238 GMT
6 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Japan's semigovernmental space agency has announced the completion of a solid-rocket booster (SRB) used for the first stage of a two-stage, next generation, large-scale H-2 rocket and is scheduled to be tested in April, agency officials said Saturday.

The National Space Development Agency (NSDA) said it will conduct a ground test of the booster for the first time at the Tanegashima Space Center in Kagoshima prefecture in April to evaluate the characteristics of the booster's thrust, the officials said.

The test will be conducted four times up to 1990 to prepare for the first H-2 rocket launch scheduled for January-February 1992, the officials said.

The H-2 rocket is Japan's major large-size rocket under development by the agency. The two-stage rocket is 48 meters long and four meters in diameter, they said.

The SRB, a supplementary rocket of the H-2 rocket, is Japan's largest solid-rocket booster and the third largest in the world following two different types of U.S. rocket boosters.

The SRB, whose estimated cost of research and development is 12 billion yen, is 23.4 meters long and 1.8 meters in diameter. It weighs about 60 tons and has a thrust power of 160 tons, the officials said.

The agency and Nissan Motor Co., Japan's second largest automaker, developed the booster based on rocket technology extended by the Education Ministry's Space and Science Institute, the officials said.

They also said the agency and the automaker have divided the booster into four parts to facilitate transportation and the booster will be assembled at the Tanegashima Space Center.

Briefs

Funds Provided to UN Programs

Japan Friday provided 700,000 dollars to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and 2 million dollars to the World Food Program (WFP), the Foreign Ministry said. Of the 700,000-dollar contribution to FAO, 300,000 dollars will be used for fishery research projects in the Western Pacific and the Indian Ocean and 400,000 dollars for forestry preservation programs in Tanzania, the ministry said. The funds to the WFP will be used to purchase rice for Laos, which is faced with serious food shortage, and for transportation of food in Africa, the ministry said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0749 GMT 5 Feb 88 OW]

North Korea

Daily Urges End to Military Confrontation

SK080325 Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean
21 Jan 88 p 5

[Commentary by Yi Hyon-to: "Hidden Daggers Must Be Thrown Away First for Reconciliation"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, in his New Year's address for this year, put forth a new proposal to convene a North-South joint conference to make 1988 a historic year by providing an opportunity to turn toward national reconciliation and unity.

The joint meeting of the DPRK Central People's Committee, State Administration Council, political parties, and public organizations held recently, in absolute support for and in favor of the great leader's proposal for a North-South joint conference, put forth specific proposals for the convocation of the meeting, and the pending issues to be discussed and settled.

One of the pending issues which should be urgently discussed and settled at the North-South joint meeting is halting large military exercises this year, including the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: As we stated more than once, military confrontation is a factor of misunderstanding and distrust between the two sides. For the fellow countrymen to trust and become reconciled with each other, hidden daggers must be thrown away first.

To settle the reunification question through dialogue and negotiation, the North and the South should adopt a stand to reconcile and unite with one another and ease tension between them. In this regard, taking a step to do away with large military exercises, aimed at the opposing side, is a question which at minimum must be settled for national unity and reconciliation.

Holding face-to-face dialogue while staging war exercises aimed at swallowing the opposing side in the dialogue is simply nonsensical. Even if seated face to face, such dialogue would only be exploited to aggravate tension, deepen mutual distrust, and increase the danger of war. In the past, the North-South dialogues, though held many times, have all been brought to deadlock without due fruits. This was because the dialogue was held while guns and rifles were aimed at one another. If large military exercises continue against the opposing side, national reconciliation and unity can never be achieved.

To gain trust and reconciliation between the compatriots and to settle the reunification question of the country through dialogue, hidden daggers must be thrown away to make one side believe that the other side will not do harm against it.

Moreover, the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise has become a dangerous factor which aggravates discord and confrontation in the nation and brings the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of a war. In recent years, the hard-won North-South dialogues were all suspended overnight, and have not been resumed. This is also because the persons in authority in South Korea, along with the U.S. imperialists, are continuing to stage the "Team Spirit" war exercise and other large war exercises and seeking North-South confrontation and war. As is known, the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is a three-dimensional preliminary war and an extremely adventurous test nuclear war which is staged by mobilizing 200,000 troops—the U.S. troops in South Korea, the puppet troops, and even the U.S. forces of aggression from the U.S. mainland and the Pacific region—and by hurling in aircraft carriers and ultra-modern war means to carry out a surprise attack against our Republic from the South Korean skies, lands, and seas. No one can foresee when the "Team Spirit" war exercise staged with the mobilization of huge 200,000-strong troops, with which a whole war can be waged, will turn into a real war.

With the situation as it is, how can tension be eased and an atmosphere of dialogue be created?

In recent years, we have exerted all sincere efforts to remove the danger of war from the Korean peninsula, ease tension, and create a favorable atmosphere for dialogue toward reunification. As an important step to ease tension on the Korean peninsula and create a decisively favorable environment for North-South dialogue, we have taken active steps of halting large military exercises in all territories of the northern half of the

republic since 1 February 1986 and stopping all military exercises when North-South dialogue is held. We appealed that the United States and the South Korean authorities, too, stop military exercises in all areas of South Korea in response to our initiative. But, challenging our initiative, they have continued to stage full-scale war exercises.

We have also made efforts to realize the proposal for high-level political and military talks since the beginning of last year and took practical measures for achieving a breakthrough for resolving the arms reduction issue, including unilaterally reducing 100,000 KPA troops, after advancing the multinational arms reduction negotiation proposal.

Nevertheless, last year, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling bunch conducted the "Team Spirit" war exercise for three months after flying in the full-scale nuclear war command aircraft, and endlessly kicked up, throughout the year, commotions for a war of northward invasion designed to attack us.

Moreover, we cannot overlook the fact that under the pretext of "guaranteeing success in the Olympics," this year, the U.S. imperialists and the persons in authority in South Korea are additionally storing a new-type of ammunition and other pieces of war materiel and equipment in South Korea in large quantities; are strengthening forces on a large scale, including deploying the U.S. Pacific Fleet in the sea around South Korea on a fixed basis; and are scheming to conduct the "Team Spirit" war exercise on a larger scale.

If forces are strengthened on a large scale in the southern part of the Korean peninsula where even without this, the state of acute confrontation has constantly continued with the Military Demarcation Line in the middle, and if large-scale war exercise commotions are perpetrated there as planned, there is no guarantee that the grave situation of armed conflicts and war will not take place. This is one of the very reasons why public opinion at home and abroad is expressing deep concern, saying that the year 1988 will be the most tense and complex period on the Korean peninsula.

For fellow countrymen not to fight with each other and to live peacefully, if reunification is not realized, it is absolutely necessary to discontinue the "Team Spirit" war exercise and other large-scale war exercises.

Such important matters as discontinuing large-scale military exercises can be resolved satisfactorily only when they are discussed in a broad-based stage of dialogue where the common will of the nation can be collected.

Korean people who have a national conscience, whether they are in the North and the South, do not hope for a fight between fellow countrymen fight or that they suffer a nuclear catastrophe that will bring about the self-destruction of the nation.

Various parties, various social organizations, and personages of all walks of life in the North and the South must rise up to realize the proposal for holding a North-South joint conference in order to resolve urgent questions that are related to the life and death of the nation.

Under circumstances in which the United States and the persons in authority in South Korea are further sharpening hidden daggers, without throwing them away, it is all the more necessary for the South Korean people of all walks of life to participate in a stage of dialogue.

Discussing and resolving the questions of convening a North-South joint conference and discontinuing the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise and other large-scale war exercises is an urgent matter that must be resolved without fail in order to prevent a war, to save the nation from a nuclear catastrophe, and to provide an opportunity for a turnover in national reconciliation and unity between the North and the South.

If the North and the South cannot resolve such pending issues as discontinuing large-scale war exercises, it will be difficult for our nation to be reconciled and united with each other; reunification will be a matter for the distant future; and the nation cannot escape from being dragged into a war [minjogi chonjaenge mallyodu-nungutto pihalsuopkedoenda].

The proposal for convening a North-South joint conference, a proposal that contains our patriotic stand and single will for national salvation, must be realized at the earliest date.

U.S. Refusal To Issue Visas Seen as Provocation
SK060457 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0447 GMT 6 Feb 88

[NODONG SINMUN demands: No International Games in the United States—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—No international games should be staged in the United States in the future in order to prevent the recurrence of the situation where the United States barred sportsmen from participating in the competition to be held in the place chosen by an international sports organization although they are entitled to do so, says NODONG SINMUN today.

Recalling that the U.S. imperialists on February 2 refused to issue visas for four persons of the DPRK team who had applied for them four weeks ago to participate in the world indoor short-track speed skating championships scheduled in the United States, the author of the commentary continues:

The DPRK has the right to participate in the championships because she is a member of the International Skating Union.

The U.S. authorities, however, refused to issue visas for the DPRK's team only. This is a new provocation to us and an outrageous violation of the rules and usage of the international games. This unprecedented and outrageous act is under fire by unbiased public opinion because the United States abused sports for its ulterior political aim.

The U.S. imperialists behave as they please with the aggressor's logic that when they take any "steps" to do harm to others or raise a demand to feather their own nest the latter ought to comply with them. But it is a gross miscalculation if they think that such coercive attitude will work anywhere as intended by the United States.

We consider that the Korea-U.S. relations should be improved for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question but have no intention to beg its solution of the United States. As long as the United States works hard to force us to give in by means of threat including "sanctions" and coercion, we shall return sanctions for "sanctions", and retaliation for "retaliation". If the United States goes on with provocations against us, it will meet only disgrace.

Sports Official on U.S. Action

SK080506 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0448 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] *Pyongyang February 8 (KCNA)*—Paek Chong-won, chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Federation in Japan, made public a press statement at a press conference on February 5 in connection with the U.S. Government's refusal of the entry of vice-chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Federation in Japan Kom Yong-chin and DPRK sportsman in Japan Kim Chang-hwan into the United States to participate in the world indoor short-track speed skating championships, according to a "KNS" report from Tokyo.

He said:

The U.S. Government prevented DPRK's sports team which has been admitted to the International Skating Union and allowed through the regular procedures in accordance with its rules from participating in the world championships sponsored by the International Skating Union. This is a malicious step to block the sound development of sports.

It is also an insult to the earnest-minded sportsmen and people of the world and has left a stigma in the history of sports.

The U.S. Government's unreasonable step is an act of going against the world trend towards peace and detente. This proves that the United States is exploiting sports for its sinister political purpose and it has no qualification to participate in any international games in the future.

NODONG SINMUN on Visa Decision

SK070632 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
0852 GMT 6 Feb 88

[NODONG SINMUN 6 February commentary: "New Vicious Provocation"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists are clearly showing their vicious nature as uncomparable burglar-like aggressors and interferers in the incident involving a South Korean passenger plane. The passenger plane incident is a product of the mean international conspiracy of the United States and the South Korean puppets.

The U.S. imperialists coordinated the passenger plane incident behind the scenes. However, like a thief turning on the victim with a club, they are kicking up frantic smear commotions to pass the blame for this incident on to us and are even playing the shameful game of announcing so-called sanctions.

This is an unforgivable destructive and provocative act designed to fulfill their aggressive purpose by maliciously making a mockery of and defiling the independence and dignity of our Republic. While doing so, in the statement released by the Department of State on 2 February, the U.S. imperialists said that they will refuse to issue visas for four people of our Republic's athletic team who applied for visas to participate in the World Indoor Short-Track Speed Skating Championships scheduled to be held in St Louis in the United States. This is an arrogant, unreasonable, and violent act against us and is a burglary that violates the rules and usages of international sports.

All the member countries of the International Skating Union are entitled to participate in the World Indoor Short-Track Speed Skating Championships, and our country is also entitled to do so. A country that sponsors the championships has the inescapable duty of guaranteeing entrance into and departure from the country for athletic teams that will participate in them, and the United States can in no way be an exception.

As requested by the organizing side, 4 weeks ago we applied to participate in the championships to be held in St Louis. The International Skating Union welcomed this and informed us of their reaction. What was left was for our athletic team to go to the United States and participate in the championships. However, the U.S. authorities refused to issue visas for our athletic team only. This is a new provocation to us and the flagrant violation of the rules and usages of international sports. This unprecedented and outrageous act is criticized by fair public opinion because the United States abused sports for impure political purposes.

The United States prevented many countries from participating in the 1988 Olympic games because, on the question of the venue and sponsorship of the games, it

was also seeking its purpose of division and is adhering to anticommunist commotions and fascist suppression, which is at variance with the noble ideals of the games.

The U.S. authorities seem to be aimed at providing any favorable circumstances for seeking their strategy toward Korea by committing such an act. This, rather, is the act of propagandizing to the world that they are the violators of noble sportsmanship, the major culprits of international terrorism, and the burglar-like aggressors against the Korean people.

The U.S. imperialists behave as they please with the aggressors' logic of thinking that when they take any steps to harm others or raise a demand to feather their own nest, the latter ought to comply with them. However, it is a foolish miscalculation if they think that such a coercive attitude will work anywhere, as intended by the United States.

In order to prevent the recurrence of an abnormal situation in which the United States uses preposterous excuses to bar athletes from participating in championships to be held in a place chosen by an international sports organization, although the athletes are entitled to do so, measures should be taken to ensure that international games are not held in the United States in the future.

Even though we recognize that Korean-U.S. relations must be improved for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, we have no intention to beg the United States for the solution. As long as they are trying to force us to give in by means of threats, including sanctions, and coercion, we shall return sanctions for sanctions and retaliation for retaliation. If the United States undertakes to perpetrate provocations against us, it will only meet with disgrace.

The U.S. authorities, squarely seeing the situation, must act with discretion; must withdraw all of their forces of aggression, including U.S. forces and nuclear weapons, from South Korea without delay; and must take their hands off the Korean question.

U.S. Resolution on Terrorism Denounced
SK060435 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0420 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—The East Asian and Pacific Affairs Sub-committee of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee held a "hearing" on the KAL incident on February 4 and adopted a "resolution" shifting the blame for it onto the DPRK.

As we have stated several times and the unbiased public opinion of the world considers, the KAL incident has nothing to do with the DPRK and it is a drama staged by the South Korean puppets themselves, and the "results of investigation" announced by them are a fabrication full of lies and contradictions.

The U.S. imperialists are to blame for the KAL incident as its wirepuller. nevertheless, they are talking about "sanctions" and "condemnation" against somebody, like a thief crying "stop thief!" It is a brigandish logic reversing black and white.

With such shameless, despicable campaign, the U.S. imperialists try to impair the international prestige of the DPRK, zealously back the moves for extension of the military "government" of the South Korean puppets caught up in a crisis, render the situation on the Korean peninsula extremely strained and attain their aggressive designs. But, this is a foolish daydream.

In the "resolution," the U.S. imperialists clamoured about the DPRK's "terrorism." It is absurd for the United States, the chief terrorist state in the world and the most heinous and brutal international gendarme, to wag tongue like that.

The U.S. imperialists must immediately discontinue their reckless acts of aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula and flouting the world conscience in conspiracy with the South Korean puppets in a foolish and despicable campaign.

Olympic Official Reaffirms Stand on Games
OW061203 Tokyo KYODO in English 1138 GMT
6 Feb 88

[Text] Calgary, Feb. 5 KYODO—North Korea continues to insist on a political solution to resolve the Olympic problems between Pyongyang and Seoul before the summer games open September 17.

Chang Ung, secretary general of the North Korean Olympic Committee, reiterated North Korea's position in an interview with KYODO News Service here Friday.

North Korea, through a series of four sports talks with South Korea and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) from December 1985, has demanded a share of the Olympic events and threatened to lead a boycott of the Seoul Games.

The boycott call never gained momentum, however, as 161 of the 167 national Olympic committees met the January 17 deadline for national entries to take part in the Seoul Olympics.

North Korea declared that it would not participate in the Olympic Games "singly held in South Korea" and proposed a North-South joint conference to consider a co-hosting agreement.

"IOC President (Juan Antonio) Samaranch has said that 'the door is still open'," pointed out Chang, adding that "even though we did not submit a national entry, we will try to reach an agreement right up to the very last.

Chang said, however, that a settlement can be reached only through the efforts between the two nations and that "the South hasn't answered our proposal" for a North-South meeting.

North Korean President Kim il-song first proposed the North-South conference in a new year's message.

Chang, explaining the need for a political solution where the sports talks have remained at a stalemate, began "every problem on the Korean peninsula is ultimately a political problem."

"I think we are in situation where there can be no solution on the sports level as long as there is no political solution," reasoned Chang.

Chang, however, recognized that "time for reaching a solution is passing very quickly."

"We look forward to a top-level conference between the two nations and a turn for the better for this situation," said Chang.

South-Japan 'Collusion' Alleged

SK071130 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1150 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil:
"What Is the Cooperative Organization Aimed At?"]

[Text] According to a report, the Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets formed a cooperative organization called the Liaison Council for Security Measures for the Olympics on the pretext of preventing someone else's terrorism against the Olympics.

This clearly shows that the conspiracy and collusion between the Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets are being strengthened on the pretext of the Olympics more than ever before. The so-called Liaison Council for Security Measures for the Olympics, a product of conspiracy and collusion between the Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets, is a thoroughly criminal cooperative organization designed to instigate antagonism against our Republic and to incite confrontation.

Whenever they find the opportunity, the Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets babble about someone else's terrorism against the Olympics. This is indeed unjust.

As is known to the entire world, we advanced a proposal for cohosting the Olympics with the South to resolve the issue of the 24th Olympic games in the common interest of the nation and made all efforts to realize the proposal. We are striving to open a bright prospect for national

reunification by eliminating mutual misunderstandings and distrust through the cohosting of the Olympics and the realization of an occasion for national reconciliation and unity.

We are not obstructing the security of the Olympics; it is the Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets whose ringleaders are the U.S. imperialists. That the rascals rave about someone else's terrorism—which has not existed up to now, nor can it exist in the future—is a shameless trick designed to aggravate tension in our country and kick off anti-Republic commotions, as was shown in the incident of the South Korean passenger aircraft.

No one can ensure that the Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets would not stage an anti-Republic campaign by again concocting such a shocking incident as the passenger aircraft incident and forming a conspiratorial cooperative organization. Following the U.S. imperialists' strategy on Korea, the Japanese reactionaries are pursuing wicked aims to perpetuate the division of Korea and widen the path for aggression against South Korea by instigating the puppets to confrontation while implementing the policy of antagonism against our Republic.

The forthcoming visits to South Korea by former Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone and Japanese Prime Minister Takeshita are part of such maneuvers. By forming the Liaison Council for Security Measures for the Olympics with the Japanese reactionaries, a new conspiratorial organization, the South Korean puppets showed once again that they are pro-Japanese nation-selling flunkies and traitors who do not care about the nation and the people.

In a meeting with the so-called director of the Japanese LDP's Political Investigation Board who came to South Korea some time ago to form such a conspiratorial organization as the cooperative organ, traitor No Tae-u asked him to make great contribution to the Olympics by assuming that South Korea and Japan are jointly holding the Olympics.

Traitor No Tae-u wants to jointly hold the Olympics with the Japanese reactionaries who are running amok with aggression in South Korea and the permanent division of Korea, turning his back to fellow countrymen who proposed to cohost the Olympics to provide favorable circumstances for national reunification by realizing national harmony and unity. Indeed, he is a filthy national traitor and a splittist who even discarded being a Korean.

The puppets' criminal maneuvers to drag outside forces directly into anti-Republic commotion against fellow countrymen are nation-selling treachery designed to use

the Olympics for the impure political aims of confrontation, war, fascism, and permanent division. The puppets' criminal maneuvers for anticommunism and confrontation against national reconciliation and unity are the direct expression of a crisis in the fascist rule and are the last-ditch efforts of those who are filled with anxiety by foreseeing the time of destruction.

History has no record on the safety of dictators who ran counter to the trend of the time while adhering to anticommunism and the policy of war. The South Korean puppets should face the situation and discard antinational maneuvers to aggravate tension in collusion with outside forces and to perpetuate the nation's division while instigating antagonism and confrontation.

The Japanese reactionaries should correctly realize that even though they are running amok with anti-Republic commotion in collusion with the puppets, they will gain nothing from this and good results will not be brought about.

CPRF Says U.S., South Making War Preparations
SK060421 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0409 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland issued Information No. 435 on February 5, denouncing the U.S. imperialists and their stooges for making preparations in South Korea for a criminal chemical warfare along with the frantic moves to provoke a nuclear war.

The information says:

A "school of chemical, biological and radioactive warfare unit" was instituted at Unit 9513 of the South Korean puppet navy to train officers for a chemical warfare. This is patent proof of the chemical warfare preparations of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets in real earnest.

The U.S. imperialists brought some ten toxic gas plants to South Korea in 1984. 25,000 drums of chemical arms of some ten kinds including toxic gas are stockpiled in South Korea and Japan.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have expanded chemical attack drills along with nuclear war exercises in "Team Spirit" joint military rehearsals. They have stockpiled a huge amount of chemical arms in South Korea, intensified chemical warfare drills and set up a specialized educational institution to train officers for chemical warfare. This shows their criminal moves to provoke a brutal nuclear, chemical war in Korea have become pronounced. Nothing but curse and death are in store for those who wield nuclear and chemical weapons.

The U.S. imperialists must look straight at the reality, act with discretion and quit South Korea at once, taking along their aggression forces and nuclear and chemical weapons.

Reagan Said To Endorse Move
SK060433 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0418 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—Reagan, boss of U.S. imperialism, endorsed on February 2 the production of binary chemical bomb "big eye," a heinous destruction weapon, starting from 1990, according to a report from Washington.

The world people demand the abolition of chemical weapons as well as nuclear weapons. The ban on the use of chemical weapons and the elimination of these weapons are put on the agenda at disarmament talks.

At this juncture, Reagan decided to hasten the production of binary chemical weapons. This shows that U.S. imperialism is the common enemy of mankind and a heinous warmonger who is crazy about exterminating humanity and dominating the world.

Paper on South's Producing Chemical Weapons
SK080708 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2153 GMT 7 Feb 88

[NODONG SINMUN 8 February commentary: "Warmongers Who Have Lost Their Reason"]

[Text] As inspired by the U.S. imperialists, the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring is frantically accelerating preparations for a criminal chemical war. Recently, at a bull session of a puppet Army unit, the rascals enumerated a sophistry as if chemical war has become a trend of the world; displayed various types of chemical war material; propagandized the so-called superiority of the materials they claim to have manufactured; and called for accelerating preparations for a chemical war.

That the puppets are preparing for a chemical war must in no way be overlooked. While introducing chemical weapons from the United States, the South Korean puppets have built poisonous gas plants and are producing and storing chemical weapons in large quantities. Recently, a war exercise, a so-called chemical, biological, and radioactive war exercise, was conducted at a puppet Navy unit and the so-called Chemical, Biological, and Radioactive Warfare School was newly established and is being operated at another puppet Navy unit to train specialized agents for a chemical war. This shows that the South Korean puppets are maneuvering to prepare for a chemical war in earnest.

As has been known, together with the U.S. imperialist forces of aggression, the puppets began the "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise in early February. This war exercise is a test war and a preliminary war to launch a

surprise attack on our Republic by mobilizing nuclear weapons and materiel necessary for nuclear operations. Together with the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the puppets are attempting to inflict a nuclear catastrophe and even a catastrophe by poisonous gas upon fellow countrymen. This again shows their nature as the nation's vicious enemies.

Following the U.S. imperialists' policy of war, the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring is attempting to commit another grave crime against the nation and mankind. Today, the peace-loving people of the world strongly demand that nuclear weapons—weapons of mass murder—and chemical weapons be thoroughly abolished. This is why, even though they are preparing for a chemical war and a bacteriological war, the imperialists have not dared to disclose it. However, the puppets have babbled that a chemical war is the trend of the world and that their materiel for a chemical war is superior. This makes one guess how mad the rascals are about war.

We are vigilantly watching the very vicious criminal maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring to provoke a barbarous nuclear war and a chemical war at all costs after disregarding our repeated peace proposals. The criminal maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring, which is indiscreetly running wild, following the U.S. imperialist aggressors' policy of war, cannot escape denunciation at home and abroad.

U.S. Weapons Stockpile in Japan Criticized

SK080517 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0452 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 8 (KCNA)—It was disclosed by an official document of the U.S. Armed Forces that the U.S. Army in Japan had stockpiled at its bases in Japan war supplies of 10,000 tons to be provided to the U.S. Armed Forces in South Korea and the South Korean puppet army as well in "case of emergency".

NODONG SINMUN today says this shows that preparations for timely dispatching U.S. combat units to the Korean front in "case of emergency" are being stepped up and Japan plays an important role of a relaying and supply base.

In a signed commentary the paper goes on:

This proves that the U.S. reinforcement units to be sent to Japan in "case of emergency" are substantially an expeditionary army for aggression on Korea and the war supplies stored in Japan are destined for the Korean front.

The U.S. imperialists are active in staging U.S.-Japan joint military exercises to use their bases in Japan as well as the Japanese "self-defence forces" when another war breaks out in Korea.

Their stockpile of war supplies in their bases in Japan in advance means that U.S.-Japan-South Korea military integration is being deepened not only in operation commanding system but also in supply and assistance.

The groundless anti-DPRK campaign of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries over the KAL incident is a premeditated scheme to disturb the reconciliation and unity of the North and the South of Korea, incite division and confrontation and aggravate the situation of the Korean peninsula.

The war moves of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries are a challenge to the Korean and Asian peoples and a threat to peace in Asia and the world.

Rallies Denounce 'Team Spirit-88' Held

SK051525 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1514 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—Mass rallies denouncing the "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal and nuclear war manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique were held in Wonsan, Nampo, Hamhung, Sariwon, Chongjin and Sinuiju cities.

Speaking at the mass rallies were representatives of different strata.

Speakers said:

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique announced the plan to hold the "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercise. This is a declaration of infringement upon peace, confrontation and war, opposition to national reconciliation and unity and an open challenge to the proposal for convocation of a North-South joint conference. We bitterly denounce the vicious new war moves of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

They condemned the U.S. imperialist aggressors for converting South Korea into a comprehensive show case of nuclear weapons, the largest nuclear arsenal in the Far East where more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons have been deployed, for the past 30 years, since they began introducing nuclear weapons into South Korea.

They branded the South Korean puppets who, obsessed with personal pleasure and greed for power, are begging for even "protection under nuclear umbrella" by U.S. nuclear-maniacs, zealously following the nuclear war policy of the U.S. imperialists, as dirty traitors to the nation and servants in their nuclear war, and bitterly denounced them with surging national indignation.

If the U.S. imperialists and their stooges are foolish enough to launch a reckless attack vociferating about "nuclear predominance", they will be unable to escape a hundred fold, a thousand fold revenge and burnt to death by the fire kindled by themselves.

More on Mass Rallies

*SK061007 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0959 GMT 6 Feb 88*

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—Mass rallies denouncing the "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal and nuclear war manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppet clique were held in Hyesan City, Yanggang Province, and in Kanggye City, Chagang Province, on February 5.

Speaking at the mass rallies were representatives of different strata.

They said:

The "Team Spirit 88" war rehearsal is not a repetition of joint military exercises held up to date, but an escalation of military operation of the U.S. imperialists leading the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war and a planned provocation carrying into practice the scheme of nuclear war which they had prepared for 30 years in order to realise their aggressive Asian strategy.

We cannot tolerate the U.S. imperialists fixing the period from February to May for war exercise, they declared, and said: during this period they scheme to concentrate huge military forces and a vast quantity of military equipment in South Korea, threaten by force of arms the democratic forces in the struggle against the extension of the military government and back the No Tae-u group newly put up by them.

The U.S. imperialist brutes who destroyed our cities and villages and brutally massacred our parents, brothers and sisters by shells and bombs during the fatherland liberation war are trying to impose nuclear holocaust upon our whole nation. Indeed, the U.S. imperialists are the sworn enemy of the Korean people and the disturber of peace for mankind, they pointed out.

They stressed that the Korean people would never allow the nuclear war provocation manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys but answer "sanctions" with sanctions and "retaliation" with retaliation.

International Reunification Committee Meets

*SK080501 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0444 GMT 8 Feb 88*

[Text] Pyongyang February 8 (KCNA)—An enlarged meeting of the executive committee of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea was held in Vienna over February 5-6.

At the meeting Prof. and Dr. Herbert Steiner, chairman of the society for the promotion of the relations between Austria and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, read out a congratulatory message of Heinz Fischer, vice-chairman of the Socialist Party of Austria and chairman of the parliamentary group of the party to the

meeting. Congratulatory speeches were made by Herbert Steiner and adviser to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria Erwin Scharf.

Roger Dafflon, honorary chairman of the International Liaison Committee and former mayor of Geneva, Switzerland, made a report on the first item "Recent Situation of South Korea and Task To Further Strengthen International Solidarity With the South Korean People in the Anti-U.S. Struggle for Independence and Anti-fascist Struggle for Democratization" and Guy Dupre, secretary general of the International Liaison Committee, on the second item "The Summing up of the Solidarity Movement in an International Year for Peace and Reunification of Korea and Measures To Be Taken." Speeches were made and some documents adopted at the meeting.

Daily on South's Silence on Talks Proposal

*SK070900 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2151 GMT 6 Feb 88*

[NODONG SINMUN 7 February commentary: "We Will Closely Watch the Moves of the South Korean Authorities"]

[Text] The second session of the North's Preparation Committee for a North-South joint conference held in Pyongyang on 4 February analyzed various situations taking place since the letter that was adopted at the 31 January joint meeting of the Central People's Committee of the DPRK, the State Administration Council, and various political parties and public organizations was handed over to the opposite side, and sincerely discussed concrete measures to realize the plan for the North-South joint conference.

This was another clear expression of our sincere and earnest efforts to eliminate antagonism between the North and the South by realizing the North-South joint conference at any cost and opening a new phase for peace and peaceful reunification.

As the world knows, proceeding from a sheer desire to make this year a turning point for national harmony and unity, we put forth the proposal to convene a North-South joint conference to discuss and resolve pending issues, including ending large-scale military exercises this year, realizing the multinational arms reduction talks, and suspending mutual slander and defamation. We also sent a letter to the South Korean side proposing to hold preliminary talks at Panmunjom on 19 February to discuss in advance the issues concerning convening the joint conference.

Highly appraising our proposal for convening the North-South joint conference, all fellow countrymen and fair public opinion of the world today earnestly want to see the creation of an atmosphere favorable to national

reconciliation and unity between the North and the South by realizing this proposal at an early date and seeing the opening of a new phase for peace and peaceful reunification.

If the persons in authority in South Korea truly want to eliminate the antagonism between the North and the South and to advance with us along the path of peace and the peaceful national reunification, they should sincerely consider our patriotic proposal and willingly respond to it.

However, the South Korean side has not replied to us, even now, nearly a month since they received our letter and when the day for the preliminary talks we proposed is near at hand. Instead, by showing alarming moves, the South Korean side disappointed the people at home and abroad who want to see the convening of a North-South joint conference at an early date.

As soon as the South Korean authorities received our letter, they fabricated and announced the investigation results about the so-called missing passenger aircraft incident, which has nothing to do with us, and frantically staged an anti-Republic smear campaign while talking about so-called sanctions, lawsuits, and so forth. Moreover, at a time when they should come to the venue of the conference by accepting our proposal for preliminary talks, they announced that they will stage the "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise together with the United States, preparing to attack our Republic, thus leading the situation of the nation to the brink of war.

In a press conference with foreign news reporters at Chongwadae, traitor Chon Tu-hwan raved that North-South dialogue can be resumed only in the early 1990's and took a negative attitude toward our proposal for a North-South joint conference. Thus, he revealed his true nature of refusing dialogue and peace.

Prior to this, in a report submitted to the National Assembly on the current situation, the puppet Unification Board viciously slandered our proposal as a camouflage peace offensive designed to split so-called national opinion and to create political and social disorder. This is truly a challenge to our proposal for a North-South joint conference. It is a declaration that refuses dialogue with us, a declaration that refuses reconciliation, and a declaration that refuses reunification.

The South Korean authorities' refusal of our patriotic proposal clearly shows that they are not interested in dialogue and peace and that they have no intention of resolving the urgent issues facing the nation.

Furthermore, the South Korean ruling bunch is frantically accelerating troop reinforcement and war commotion on the pretext of the security of the Olympics while drastically increasing the repressive forces. It is abusing the sacred Olympic movement, which assumes peace

and friendship as its goal, for the security of their power and for perfecting preparations for a northward war of aggression. We absolutely cannot tolerate this.

Despite our peace-loving proposals and sincere efforts to realize them, the distrust and state of confrontation between the North and the South are being aggravated daily because of the anticommunist confrontation and war commotion of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling bunch; and a dangerous situation in which an all-out war can break out at any moment, even by a minor accident, is being created on the Korean peninsula.

If we continuously advance along the path of confrontation with guns aimed at each other as today, our nation cannot avoid falling onto an ominous road. Eliminating the state of political and military confrontation created between the North and the South emerged as an urgent national issue linked with destiny of the people.

The basic goal of our proposal for a North-South joint conference is to turn North-South relations into relations of harmony and unity, not distrust and confrontation, by realizing a broad plaza of negotiations for reunification; to save the nation and the people from the crisis of life or death; and to open a new breakthrough for peace and reunification.

Proceeding from such a stance and desire, we decided to take appropriate measures to cope with the grave situation which has been created in our country because of the anticdialogue and antipeace attitude of the South Korean ruling bunch and again appealed to political parties, public organizations, and people from all walks of life in the North and the South who desire peace and peaceful reunification of the nation to convene the North-South joint conference by thoroughly smashing the maneuvers of the splittists at home and abroad and to rise as one in the struggle to open a new path toward national reunification.

This appeal reflects our side's sincerity, national magnanimity, and active position to improve North-South relations at any cost and to pioneer the path for peace and peaceful reunification.

Political parties, public organizations, and people from all walks of life in South Korea who are concerned with the future of the nation and the people and who desire reunification should respond to our patriotic appeal for national salvation and actively rise in the struggle to open a bright prospect for reunification by convening the North-South joint conference.

The anticommunist fascist maneuvers and war commotion staged by the South Korean ruling bunch under the instigation of the United States run totally counter to the demand of the prevailing situation and our people's aspirations for peace and reunification. If the South

Korean authorities are truly interested in national harmony and unity and want to achieve the earnest desire of all the people for national reunification, they should discard commotions for confrontation and war against us, and, facing the situation, should respond affirmatively to our peace-loving patriotic proposal for a North-South joint conference and take steps so that preliminary talks can be held.

We will closely watch the moves of the South Korean authorities.

Rally Marks 'Nation-Saving Struggle
SK070815 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0805 GMT 7 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 7 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang meeting was held Saturday to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the February 7 nation-saving struggle of the South Korean people.

Chon Kum-chol, director of the secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, made a report at the meeting.

He said the February 7 struggle was an eruption of the South Korean people's resentment at the U.S. imperialists' aggressive moves for a permanent split of Korea and continuation of the colonial rule over South Korea under the flag of the United Nations, and a massive anti-American nation-saving resistance to realize their desire to drive out the U.S. imperialists and build a unified sovereign state, independent and democratic.

He continued:

On January 8, 1948, the U.S. imperialists brought in Seoul the "U.N. Temporary Commission on Korea." Two million people rose in struggle against it throughout South Korea on February 7, shouting "opposition to the 'U.N. temporary commission on Korea'," "Opposition to the establishment of a separate government in South Korea" and "enforce the same democratic reforms as in the North." Their struggle lasted about three months.

Though 40 years have passed since the February 7 nation-saving struggle in South Korea, the desire of the South Korean people for independence, sovereignty, democracy and national reunification has not yet been realized. It is entirely due to the U.S. imperialists' policy of colonial subjugation over South Korea.

The conversion of South Korea into their colony and military base is the keynote of their policy of colonial subjugation over South Korea. The U.S. imperialists have shipped a great many nuclear weapons into South Korea and staged large-scale "team spirit" joint military exercises with the South Korean puppets year after year in order to attack the DPRK and other socialist countries with South Korea as a springboard.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors announced the plan of the "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal on January 28 this year. This is an open challenge to the peaceful efforts of the Korean people and a patent proof that they are war-mongers disturbing peace on the Korean peninsula and separatists opposed to the reunification of Korea.

To reunify the divided country is the most urgent task of the entire Korean people. The people of all social standings and personages of political parties and public organizations in South Korea should determinedly smash the criminal treacheries of the puppet rulers staging a war rehearsal for inflicting a nuclear scourge on the fellow countrymen and should positively support the proposal for the convocation of a North-South joint conference.

If the South Korean fascist clique truly has even a slight idea of removing the North-South confrontation, eliminating the danger of war and paving the way for reunification through dialogue and negotiation, it must immediately discontinue the anti-DPRK smear campaign and give up the "Team Spirit 88."

The meeting was attended by Secretary Ho Chong-suk of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and other officials.

This day is observed by the press here today.

Japan's Stance on Crewmen's Release Viewed
SK061045 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1036 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—The Japanese government said it was to be "regretted" that the prospect for the settlement of the issue of Japanese crewmen had become gloomy because of the DPRK's countermeasure against its "sanctions" and it would continue "negotiations".

MINJU CHOSON today condemns this as an arrogant act.

To begin with, the crewmen of the "Fujisan Maru No. 18" in question were caught red-handed while spying on the DPRK.

In a signed commentary the paper says:

It is entirely due to the reckless anti-DPRK campaign of the Japanese government that the contacts between the DPRK and Japanese diplomats including those over the issue of the Japanese crewmen have been cut off and the relations between the two countries became worse.

We ask the Japanese "officials" boasting of "clairvoyance": Do they have the face to express "regret" and talk about "negotiation" after they have provoked the DPRK, slinging mud at it?

The Japanese reactionaries have a pert tongue, being the first to announce "sanctions" such as "restrictions on contacts" between the Korean and Japanese diplomats. Herein lie the craftiness, maliciousness and brazenness of the Japanese reactionaries.

Putting together the attitude of the Japanese reactionaries towards the DPRK over the KAL incident and the ensuing developments we can see they still think they can order anyone to do this or that as they used to during their colonial rule and try to have a share in return for joining the U.S. imperialists in the anti-DPRK campaign.

If Japan truly wants the improvement of Korea-Japan relations in the interests of the two peoples, it must apologize for the errors it has committed by joining in the anti-DPRK campaign of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets and show its sincerity.

Commodity Exchange Protocol Signed With PRC
SK051545 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1532 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—A protocol on commodity exchange for 1988 was signed in Pyongyang Friday between the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China.

It was signed by Song Hui-chol, vice-minister of foreign trade, on our side and head of the Chinese government trade delegation Wang Pingqiang, vice-minister of foreign economic relations and trade, on the Chinese side.

South Korea

Massive North Troop Movement Reported
SK062320 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
2200 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Reported by correspondent Yu Sung-che from Tokyo]

[Text] Since the Korean Airlines' jetliner incident proved to be the result of North Korea's terrorist bombing, tensions have heightened on the Korean peninsula, and North Korea has massively concentrated troops near the truce line, according to a SANKEI SHIMBUN report today. Citing an international military source, SANKEI SHIMBUN reported that in North Korea, beginning since the middle of last month, trucks loaded with troops and arms have continuously moved south, creating the same tense situation as existed in wake of the Rangoon incident. SANKEI SHIMBUN stated that troops that were previously deployed in central or northern areas of North Korea are moving close to the truce line. This sudden North Korean troop movement has also been reported by diplomats stationed in Pyongyang to foreign embassies in Beijing.

North To Be Condemned at Air Law Conference
SK060658 Seoul YONHAP in English
0650 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korea plans to condemn North Korea during an international air law meeting later this month for the bombing of a South Korean passenger jet last November.

The Foreign Ministry said Saturday that Vice Foreign Minister Pak Sang-yong will attend the International Conference on Air Law, scheduled for Feb. 9-24 in Montreal, Canada, to censure North Korea for its act of terrorism.

Korean Air (KAL) Flight 858, which originated in Baghdad, Iraq, vanished near Burma on Nov. 29 last year before it was to make a refueling stop in Bangkok en route to Seoul. After a month-long investigation of a woman suspect, identified as Kim Hyon-hui, the South Korean government announced last month that the KAL jet with 115 people aboard was destroyed by a bomb planted by Kim and her male companion.

Kim confessed that she and her companion, who had been traveling as father and daughter on fake Japanese passports, planted time bombs aboard the ill-fated jetliner on orders of Kim Chong-il, son and heir apparent of North Korean leader Kim Il-song. Her male companion took his own life as they were to be questioned at the Manama Airport in the Baharaini capital.

The air law conference, sponsored by the International Civil Aviation Organization, will adopt a protocol for the suppression of unlawful acts of violence at airports serving international aviation, a ministry official said.

Kim Hyon-hui Tutor Not Missing Japanese Woman
SK071035 Seoul YONHAP in English
1029 GMT 7 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (YONHAP)—Japanese investigators have confirmed that a Japanese woman who taught Japanese language to Kim Hyon-hui, a North Korean agent who confessed to the bombing of a Korean Air jetliner, has nothing to do with the three Japanese women disappeared from Japanese seashores in 1978, South Korean investigation authorities said Sunday.

Three Japanese investigators, who flew into Seoul last Tuesday, interviewed Miss Kim to find out whether any one of the three missing Japanese women had been kidnapped to North Korea, according to the authorities.

Miss Kim, traveling with another veteran North Korean agent for the bombing mission on forged Japanese passports, had said that she learned her Japanese from a Japanese woman in her early thirties who told Kim that she was kidnapped in 1979 while walking on a seashore near Tokyo.

The Japanese investigators showed to Miss Kim the pictures of the three missing Japanese women but Kim said no one of them was her Japanese teacher, the authorities said.

Tutor Admitted Being Japanese

OW080639 Tokyo KYODO in English 0617 GMT
8 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 KYODO—The woman known as Li Un-Hye, who was a tutor to self-confessed North Korean agent Kim Hyon-Hui, was not good at the Korean language and told Kim that she was Japanese, informed sources said Monday.

The sources said Kim, 26, disclosed this during a three-hour interview with Japanese police offices in an apartment owned by South Korea's agency for National Security planning last Thursday afternoon.

Kim, who confessed to the bombing of a Korean Air (KAL) plane with 115 people on board last November, appeared generally to understand what the Japanese investigators were saying to her in the Japanese language, the sources said.

They said Kim's Japanese pronunciation was correct and that she recited the theme song of the popular Japanese movie series "Tora-San" with no local accent.

The extent of her proficiency in Japanese could not be fully determined, however, as she did not speak very much in the language, the sources said.

They said Kim was tense and nervous at first but gradually relaxed with Japanese investigators.

The sources said Kim talked in detail about the Japanese lessons she had received from her tutor in Pyongyang since 1981.

They quoted Kim as telling the Japanese investigators that her tutor lived on the second floor of a two-story building while she herself lived on the first floor.

Kim said her tutor always wore bright clothes and high-heeled shoes.

She said Li at first was reluctant to talk about her past but that she revealed it little by little when drinking alcohol, the sources said.

Kim said Li was not very good at the Korean Language and added she remembers clearly that Li told her "I am a Japanese," the sources said.

Chinese Women Abduction by North 'Confirmed'
SK060915 Seoul YONHAP in English
0849 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—A Chinese woman reported to be missing in Macao since June 1978 was recently confirmed to have been kidnapped by North Korean agents and taken to North Korea, a leading daily here said Saturday.

The national daily TONG-A ILBO in a compiled dispatch from its correspondents in Washington and Tokyo reported that Ms. Kong Yong-aeng, believed to be in her early 20s at the time of her disappearance in the Portuguese colony, has been identified by a South Korean film actress who together with her husband had managed to escape from North Korea in 1986 after being detained for eight years in that communist country.

Mrs. Choe, who now resides in the United States with her husband, was shown a picture of Kong for confirmation, according to the daily, which quoted Choe as saying that she and Ms. Kong, when the two were detained in North Korea, had promised to reveal the truth of their abduction to their families if either of them escaped from North Korea.

Choe and her husband, film-director Sin Sang-ok, while on a film-making assignment for North Korea, sought refuge in the U.S. Embassy in Vienna, Austria, on March 13, 1986, before defecting to the United States.

Mrs. Choe, according to the daily, said she was obligated to keep the promise she made with Kong although Ms. Kong's life might be threatened by her disclosure.

Mrs. Choe was quoted as having been told by Kong that she was working as a clerk at a jeweler's shop and was once a volleyball player in her middle-school days in Macao, as had been reported in a Macao newspaper shortly after Kong was reported missing in June 1986.

The daily also said Kong told Choe that she had a side job as a part-time tour guide when she was abducted from a Macao beach by North Korean agents disguised as tourists.

When Choe was presented with photographs of two other women reported by the Macao daily as having been taken to North Korea, according to TONG-A, Choe said that although she had seen another Chinese woman in North Korea, she heard from Kong that one of the two women, identified as So Myo-chin, must have been another Chinese woman abducted to North Korea while working as a hostess in Macao.

On Dec. 19 last year, the Japanese daily YOMIURI SHIMBUN reported in a story with photos, quoting an article by the Macao daily, that a Thai woman, along with the two Chinese women were the three women abducted from Macao. The Japanese daily also said the

three kidnapped women, believed to be between the age of 20 and 22, had been dating a man in his late 20s who had a Japanese passport. The daily also said the three were reported missing after being invited to dinner with the man.

Intellectual Property Rights Accord Fails

SK070156 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
7 Feb 88 p 1

[By correspondent Yi Chae-sung]

[Text] Washington—Korea and the United States failed to reach an accord over the issue of intellectual property rights in two-day negotiations.

Hwang Tu-hyon, director general of the trade cooperation bureau at the Trade-Industry Ministry, led a Korean delegation to negotiate the issue with U.S. trade officials, including Assistant U.S. Trade Representative Miss Sandra Kristoff. The negotiations, which started on Friday, wound up yesterday.

Even though the two sides failed to narrow their differences, they agreed to hold another round of negotiations to solve the issue of intellectual property rights in Seoul in March.

Hwang said that the U.S. side called upon the Korean government to give substantial concessions on the protection of foreign intellectual property rights as it has done on three other outstanding issues—cigarettes, beef and insurance.

He apprehended that unless the Korean government cracks down on piracy of foreign college textbooks, trade frictions between Korea and the United States would flare up further. [sentence as published]

On Thursday, Miss Kristoff warned that the United States would resort to Section 301 of the U.S. Trade Act against imports of Korean products if the Korean government does not retrieve some 200 million pirated editions of U.S. college books circulated on the Korean book market.

In negotiations in 1986, the Korean government agreed to protect the copyrights of U.S. publications retroactive from 1976.

In the meantime, Hwang said that the two sides also failed to narrow their differences over the scope of pipeline products.

Pipeline products are those whose patent rights are registered in the United States without being sold on the U.S. market.

The U.S. side demanded that the Korean government should protect 913 pipeline products which the United States notified to Seoul last year.

However, the Korean delegation insisted that 250 pipeline products, mostly related with pharmaceutical goods and agricultural chemicals, should be deleted from the list on the grounds that it is difficult to protect them through administrative guidance because they are concocted.

Foreign Trade Link Inquiries Increase

SK080211 Seoul YONHAP in English
0157 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—The continued growth of South Korea's exports and the upcoming 1988 Seoul Olympics have prompted foreign traders to seek more business links with Korean enterprises, the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) reported Monday.

A KFTA report showed that the number of inquiries filed with the association from abroad by concerns in search of trade links with Korean companies in 1987 had more than doubled to 23,670 cases from the figure of the previous year.

Furniture, musical instruments, sporting goods, handicrafts, toys, and wigs and other miscellaneous goods topped the list of items the foreign traders hoped to buy from Korea, accounting for 37.7 percent of the inquiries.

Electric and electronic goods followed with 13.1 percent, and textiles and garments placed third with 10.8 percent. Machinery products accounted for 8.3 percent.

Miscellaneous goods were also among the items that foreign traders hoped to sell to Korea, accounting for 20.3 percent of the requests for KFTA's assistance in setting up trade links with Korean businesses.

Inquiries for agro-fishery products placed second behind miscellaneous goods as items that foreign exporters hoped to sell to Korea with 15.8 percent. electric and electronic goods followed with 13.7 percent, and textiles and garments placed fourth with 9.9 percent.

The largest number of inquiries came from Asian traders with 3,568 or 29.8 percent of the total, followed by the United States and Canadian traders who filed 3,174 inquiries or 26.5 percent.

Inquiries from Africa totaled 1,987 and those from Europe reached 1,872.

No Tae-u Expects Self-Reliance by 1990's

SK070034 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
7 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] President-elect No Tae-u said yesterday that he hopes that Korea will achieve an independent defense capability and see an "equal" relationship with the United States in the military arena.

After receiving a briefing on this year's business plans from Defense Minister Chong Ho-yong, he said, "Our military is required to accomplish self-reliant national defense by the early 1990s.

Based on the growing capability of war deterrence," he said, "We will have to enhance further equal ties with the Americans in the military sector."

During his presidential campaign, he viewed it necessary to recover operational control over the Korean armed forces from the U.S. commander here.

He then hinted that it would be possible around 1992, when the country will become 70 percent self-reliant in defense.

He told the defense minister to release military information to the press and seek public understanding, stressing that the best security policy would be useless without the trust of the people.

He called on ministry officials to give regular briefings to opposition party leaders and exchange views with civilian specialists.

The next president accented that the defense ministry should be of no exception to democratic progress in all areas serving the taxpayers best. He advised Chong to gradually return military-use land to civilian owners.

"The military desires to gain confidence and love from the people through better service to them," he stressed.

The defense ministry was the last among government ministries to make a business report to the president-elect to help him grasp overall administration affairs before the inauguration on Feb. 25.

A committee preparing for his takeover of government, led by Rep. Yi Chun-ku, will report on current issues facing the administration to No coming Saturday.

Kim Yong-sam Resigns RDP Presidency
SK080126 Seoul MBC Television Network in Korean
0043 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] RDP President Kim Yong-sam held a news conference this morning at the party headquarters and declared his resignation from the post of the party president. Here you will see President Kim's news conference.

[Begin Kim Yong-sam videotaped speech] Proceeding from my desire for the rapid reunification of the opposition camp, today I clearly express my will to resign the post of the president of the RDP and to serve as an ordinary party member. I am going to become a nest egg for the achievement of the great democratic cause, and I

hope my determination today will become a small occasion to spur new hope and courage among the people who have been driven into disappointment and frustration.

At the same time, I urgently appeal to all politicians in this country to renounce their party interests and their personal interests and to achieve reunification of the opposition camp at an early date without any condition or formality. [applause]

The unified opposition party will have to continue innovating itself undergoing painful processes for the renovation of the party's constitution, for democratization within the party, for the modernization of the party, and for making the party a policy-oriented political party. By so doing, the unified opposition party will be able to become a new democratic political party capable of enjoying the full support and love of the people. Let us, therefore, all unite ourselves firmly so that we can establish a real civilian democratic government in the near future and realize true liberal democracy in this land.

I look forward to the people's active support and encouragement in this effort we are making and hope, at the same time, that the people will give us continuous criticism and unsparing reproof. Thank you. [end recording]

Calls for United Opposition

SK080341 Seoul YONHAP in English
0322 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—In a surprise move for the divided opposition ailing from internal dissent and defections, Kim Yong-sam declared his resignation Monday as president of the leading opposition Reunification Democratic Party, calling for a united opposition.

Kim and rival opposition leader Kim Tae-chung have been under pressure to step aside from their leadership posts after their split resulted in the opposition's defeat in the presidential election on Dec. 16 last year.

Despite the vote of confidence he requested and won at a special national convention of the party only a month ago, Kim told a news conference at the RDP headquarters, for the sake of a speedier unification of the opposition, I make it clear that I am resigning from the party presidency.

Kim called on all the opposition politicians to discard their partisan and individual interests and to realize quickly the merger of the opposition forces free from any condition or formality, indicating a departure from his earlier scheme to reunite the divided opposition under the leadership of his party.

Political observers said Kim's resignation will boost the opposition's reunification drive which seemed to have nearly ruptured early last week when rival opposition leader Kim Tae-chung agreed to a new formula of collective leadership in his party with the participation of more than 90 dissidents who had no prior affiliation with the party.

Any failure to reunify the opposition will deepen the frustration of the people and will lead to another failure to build solid power to hold the ruling party in check, Kim said.

He said, it is a historic mission to win a landslide victory in the upcoming parliamentary elections by realizing a reunited opposition.

Saying that he feels guilty as a responsible politician for frustrating the people again due to the decreasing possibility of a united opposition as time goes by despite its urgency, Kim expressed his confidence that only if reunited, will the opposition be able to realize genuine democracy through an 'election revolution.'

Asked about the future leadership of his party, Kim replied that he has no intention to become involved in the leadership, adding that he had not discussed his resignation with any of his fellow party members.

A close aide to Kim told reporters that Kim made the decision alone after meeting with leading figures of society outside the political arena. Kim's decision came out of his recognition that the split opposition will not be able to win the parliamentary elections, and is meant to restore the opposition's power, he said.

The party has appointed the RDP's eldest vice president Kim Myong-yun as its acting president.

No Expected To Organize Cabinet by 20 Feb
SK070134 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
7 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] President-elect No Tae-u will organize the cabinet of his administration and the Chongwadae staff by Feb. 20, a close aide said yesterday.

The prime minister and the senior presidential secretaries will be chosen first on order that he call take their opinion on the lineup into account. [sentence as published]

Many names are already circulating in the political circles as candidates for top posts in the No Tae-u government.

Former national unification minister Yi Yong-hui is said to be considered for prime minister, whose authority will be promoted with the reduction of the presidential staff's power.

Education Minister So Myong-won is another candidate, political sources said.

Other names include Yi Han-pin, former deputy premier; Pak Pyong-kwon, former defense minister; and Sin Hyon-sik, former construction minister, who all are now members of the Democratization and Reconciliation Council.

Ko Chae-pil, ex-minister of health-social affairs, was also mentioned as he, with a brilliant bureaucratic career, was from the Cholla area, an important factor considering the need to ensure regional balance between Cholla and Kyongsang Provinces. No was born and educated in the Kyongsang area.

As next deputy prime minister-economic planning minister, Prof. Cho Sun of Seoul National University is considered along with the ruling party's policy-maker Kang Kyong-sik, a former finance minister.

Trade-Industry Minister Na Ung-pae may be promoted to the deputy prime minister's post or named presidential secretary general, according to the sources.

Former transportation minister Son Su-ik from Chollanamdo is also named as a possible chief secretary to the president. Other names for the position include Health-social Affairs Minister Yi Haw-won and former agriculture-forestry-fisheries minister Hwang In-sung.

No's present staff will be designated as senior secretaries.

PPD To Participate at Special Assembly
SK060015 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
6 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] The National Assembly will be called into a seven-day extraordinary session Wednesday to settle the sticky issue of revising the Parliamentary Election Law.

The floor leaders of the ruling and opposition parties yesterday reaffirmed an earlier accord on the parliamentary sitting in separate meetings yesterday.

The Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD], led by Kim Tae-chung, which had once threatened to boycott the session unless the ruling Democratic Justice Party turns in favor of its small constituency formula, agreed to take part.

Three weeks of inter-party negotiations on the revision of the Parliamentary Election Law have made little progress due to sharp differences among the ruling and three opposition parties on the electoral district formula.

As for the parliamentary district, the DJP has taken a dubious stance, thus throwing the opposition parties into confusion.

It adopted a mixed district system electing one to three lawmakers from each constituency depending upon its population as its official line. But it also hinted that it would settle down on small districts on the strength of its majority status in the extra House session in case the on-going negotiations failed to produce a compromise version.

The small district constituency is favored by the PPD, through the rival parties differ on the population standard to zone the districts.

The government party called for the unification of the constituency formula by the three opposition parties which turned out impossible, as the rival RDP and the PPD stick to their respective positions.

Kim Yong-sam's RDP favors the medium-sized district, each electing two to four lawmakers. The major opposition RDP has been engaged in a tug of war with the DJP over the number of small districts in the DJP's mixed formula.

The original number of small districts in the DJP formula was 161 out of the total 211. The other 50 districts were to elect two or three lawmakers each.

In its compromise proposal, the DJP reduced the number of small districts by 35 to 126 while increasing the number of medium districts.

The RDP, however, demanded that the DJP reduce the number of small districts to less than 20 though it was ready to accept a much larger number.

In the negotiations with the RDP Thursday, the DJP negotiators said that it can not reduce the number of small districts to a "double digit," indicating that 100 was its final offer.

Political observers say that the RDP may accept it if the DJP proposes a reduction of the number of small districts to about 70, while increasing that of medium-size constituencies.

In the meantime, the RDP refuses to attend a joint meeting of the negotiators at which the PPD is represented. PPD negotiators, for their part, insisted that they would boycott separate negotiations with the DJP.

In his meeting with opposition counterparts, DJP whip Yi Tae-sun made it clear that the DJP will have to put its own amendment bill to a vote in the forthcoming session in case the opposition parties stick to their own positions.

Then the DJP floor leader reiterated his call for a unified district formula by the three opposition parties including the New Democratic Republican Party which seeks medium-size districts similar to that of the RDP.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir on 'Crisis', Japan's Regional Role
OW060757 Tokyo KYODO in English 0746 GMT
6 Feb 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb. 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, in reference to the present political crisis at home, said Saturday national leaders should always be determined to overcome the problems they face.

He expressed his determination in a meeting with Dai-saku Ikeda, a prominent Japanese religious leader, at the prime minister's official residence, according to sources close to Ikeda.

Sources here interpreted Mahathir's remark as reflecting strong confidence that the situation is under his control.

The political crisis stemmed from a Kuala Lumpur high court ruling earlier this week that the United Malays National Organization (UMNO), the dominant partner of Mahathir's National Front coalition government, is illegal because it has local chapters not registered with the registrar of societies.

The ruling may force UMNO to reregister as a political organization and necessitate a new party presidential election.

Mahathir is also UMNO's president since 1981, reelected for a third term at the election in April last year.

At a press conference Friday, he denied that the court ruling has created a political crisis.

The largest opposition party, the Democratic Action Party (DAP), says Mahathir should resign as prime minister.

Ikeda, honorary president of Japan's largest Buddhist lay organization Soka Gakkai, is visiting here as a guest of the Culture and Tourism Ministry.

During the one-hour meeting, Mahathir urged Japan to play the role of a locomotive engine for further economic development of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

He also called for Japan's assistance to help the ASEAN member nations to learn more from the country, according to the sources.

ASEAN groups Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines and Brunei.

Malaysia is ASEAN's dialogue coordinator in charge of Japan.

On bilateral matters, Mahathir asked Japan to accept more Malaysians as trainees at industrial facilities, boost investment in his country and business from Malaysia, according to the sources.

They said Mahathir positively responded to Ikeda's proposal for holding a summit conference of government leaders from Asian countries, including China and South Korea.

Such a meeting will be very significant, Mahathir was quoted as telling Ikeda.

Ikeda, currently president of Soka Gakkai International (SGI), arrived here Friday after a trip to Hong Kong and Thailand. He will travel to Singapore Monday to complete his four-country Asian tour.

Ikeda, 60, was president to Tokyo-based Soka Gakkai from 1960 to 1979.

With a membership of 7.5 million in Japan, the religious organization is closely aligned with Komeito, Japan's second largest opposition party.

Two Organizations Extend Support to UMNO
BK060713 Kuala Lumpur International Service
in English 0600 GMT 6 Jan 88

[Text] The central working committee of the Gerakan, a component party of the ruling National Front, has declared its unanimous support for the government of Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed. The Gerakan urged the people to remain calm even though UMNO [United National Malays Organization] has been deemed an unlawful society by the Kuala Lumpur high court. The president of Gerakan, Datuk Dr Lim Keng Yaik, who is also the minister of primary industries, told a news conference in Kuala Lumpur he was confident that the UMNO could solve its technical problem in due time. The party felt that the government under Datuk Dr Sri Mahathir is intact and legal.

Meanwhile, the Sarawak state National Front has said it will continue to support Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed as the prime minister of Malaysia. Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud, in pledging the support, called on the people to remain calm and continue their support for Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir as the national leader.

Deputy Prime Minister Meets With Iranian Envoy
LD051525 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador to Malaysia met with that country's deputy prime minister and conferred with him

on matters relating to developing the two countries' relations in various fields. During the meeting the Malaysian deputy prime minister said: We seek to expand relations between the two Islamic countries, Iran and Malaysia, still further. Malaysia needs Iran, a great country with ample natural resources. Stressing the fact that only through the unity of Islamic countries can anything be done to face up to the Zionists. He said: The Malaysian people and government express their aversion to the Zionists' recent crimes and support the people's uprising.

Singapore

U.S. Accused of 'Blatant High-Handedness'

GSP Decision Criticized

BK061428 Singapore Domestic Service in English
1400 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Yeo Cheow Tong, has accused the United States of blatant high-handedness in graduating Singapore out of its Generalized System of Preferences [GSP] scheme next year, by which the Republic will lose its duty-free access to U.S. markets. He said the original decision was to graduate South Korea and Taiwan. However, the U.S. subsequently decided to exclude Singapore and Hong Kong from the GSP in order to make it clear that South Korea and Taiwan were not being discriminated.

Mr Yeo was interviewed by Singapore Broadcasting Corporation before he left for the United States to attend the ASEAN-U.S. dialogue in Washington next week. Singapore is the coordinating country for the dialogue. During the discussion, the GSP issue will be brought up in the context of Singapore's bilateral relationship with the United States.

Mr Yeo said Singapore would express very strongly its unhappiness and disappointment over the U.S. decision to end GSP benefits for Singapore. ASEAN countries would also speak up very strongly in support of Singapore's case. Mr Yeo, however, ruled out Singapore taking any retaliatory measures over the issue. He stressed that the relations between Singapore and the United States must be based on good faith. The minister said a country which is trading with the United States must be consistent and predictable in its actions. But on the GSP issue, the United States has been totally inconsistent and unpredictable. Mr Yeo added this was of great concern to Singapore.

Government May Appeal

BK071233 Singapore Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 7 Feb 88

[Text] The finance minister, Dr Richard Hu, has said the government will appeal, if necessary, directly to President Reagan over the dropping of duty-free benefits for some Singapore exports from next year. He said the

president signed an executive order to end the Generalized System of Preferences [GSP] scheme for the republic. That order was not a law. In some ways it was easier to reverse an executive order than a law passed by Congress. Dr Hu was speaking to newsmen after handing Chinese New Year hong paos [traditional new lunar year gifts] to Kereta Air senior citizens in his constituency.

The minister said President Reagan had always been against protectionism but had been persuaded by his officials to exclude Singapore from GSP benefits. It was believed the (?thought) within the Reagan administration was only in favor of removing GSP benefits in South Korea and Taiwan, leaving Hong Kong and Singapore alone because these two pursued free trade practice. Dr Hu, however, said there were some officials in the State Department who thought it might be unfair to others if Singapore and Hong Kong were kept on the GSP program. Singapore was lumped in with the others by force of circumstances. Dr Hu said there was not a bad chance that the U.S. Administration might reconsider its decision to exclude Singapore from the GSP scheme as our circumstances were different from those of Taiwan and South Korea. Firstly, he said, the trade surpluses of these two countries with the U.S. were vastly bigger than that of Singapore. Secondly, South Korea and Taiwan pursued very protectionist import tariffs, particularly on the entry of U.S. goods. Thirdly, both have enormous reserves and they were much bigger economies than Singapore. They were also much less dependent on exports than Singapore as they had domestic economies of a substantial size.

Dr Hu ruled out currency changes as a condition for the reinstatement of GSP benefits. He said Singapore has never believed in using currency to defend its trade policies.

Publishers' Protest 'Inordinately Late'

HK080608 Hong Kong AFP in English 0600 GMT
8 Feb 88

[Text] Hong Kong, Feb 8 (AFP)—The Society of Hong Kong Publishers said Monday it had been told by the Singapore Government that the society was "inordinately late" in its protest against Singapore's curb on sales of foreign periodicals.

The society said the statement was contained in a letter from Singapore's Information Secretary Tao Yeoh Chi dated February.

The letter was in reply to the society's written protest on January 27 to Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew against his government's restrictive measures on four of the society's members: the ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL and the magazines ASIAWEEK, FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW and TIME.

"Your protestation was inordinately late—more than 15 months after the first publication was gazetted," Mr. Tao was quoted as saying in the reply in a statement issued by the society Monday.

"Your concern over any purported hindrance to the circulation of reading material in Singapore is misplaced," Mr. Tao's letter read.

"In the age of the photocopier and the facsimile machine, the information contained in the gazetted publications will circulate freely," the letter said. "To further facilitate this information flow, the Singapore Government has just amended its Newspaper and Printing Presses Act, making it easier still for the public to obtain reproduced copies of gazetted publications," it added. The FAR EASTERN REVIEW stopped its circulation in Singapore after the government restricted its 10,000-plus sales to 500 copies from December 26.

Before that the Singapore Government had restricted sales of the other three publications. All four were accused of meddling in domestic politics.

Cambodia

Foreign Ministry Supports Lao Struggle

BK060607 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT
6 Feb 88

["Statement of the PRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs"—
SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 6 Feb (SPK)—"The Cambodian Government and people unreservedly support the fraternal Lao people in their just struggle to defend their independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity."

This was affirmed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRK in a statement issued on 4 February.

The statement went on to say:

The acts of provocation by the Thai authorities against the LPDR and their permanent threat against Laos' sovereignty and territorial integrity most evidently show the pan-Thai ambition of the Thai ultrarightist circles. These acts run counter to the interests of the Lao people, as well as those of the Thai people themselves, who have no other desire than to live in peace, friendship, good neighborliness, and cooperation. They harm the current trend in the region and the whole world to settle all conflicts through peaceful means.

The PRK reaffirms its full support for the good-will position taken by the LPDR in the face of the acts of provocations conducted by the Thai reactionary ultrarightist circles. It hails the LPDR's declaration to start negotiations by February in order to bring an immediate end to all these conflicts.

The PRK demands that the Thai authorities immediately cease all these acts of hostile provocations and positively respond to the good-will proposal of the LPDR to sit down at the negotiating table on the basis of equal footing and without preconditions. The time is ripe for the Thai authorities to show their goodwill in order to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation. Thailand must bear full responsibility for all the consequences that may result from their provocative acts.

National Assembly's 14th Session Concludes

February 6th Morning Session

BK060507 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] On the morning of 6 February, the 14th session of the First National Assembly resumed its work in accordance with its schedule.

On the morning of this session's fourth day, National Assembly members continued their group debates on drafts and reports of a number of institutions which requested endorsement by the National Assembly for their contributions to fulfilling the strategic tasks and the three revolutionary targets adopted by the fifth party national congress.

6 February Afternoon Session

BK061358 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1100 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] On the afternoon of 6 February, the PRK First National Assembly's 14th session continues its work in accordance with the agenda.

On the evening of the fourth day of the session, members of the National Assembly attentively listened to addresses by members from the Phnom Penh, Preah Vihear, Kompong Thom, Battambang, Takeo, Kandal, Kompong Cham, Kompong Chhnang, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, and Pursat constituencies. Each address pointed the work [words indistinct] between the 13th and 14th sessions [words indistinct] of the party and state in each constituency.

The session adjourned at 1700 and will resume its work tomorrow morning, 7 February.

7 February Morning Session

BK070542 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 7 Feb 88

[Text] On the morning of 7 February, the 14th session of the first National Assembly of the PRK resumed its work as scheduled. During the morning session of the meeting's fifth day, the National Assembly members attentively listened to speeches presented by the Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Kompong Speu, Kampot, Kratie, Stung

Treng, Kompong Som, Koh Kong, Ratanakiri, and Mondolkiri constituencies. These speeches conveyed the support of the people—the voters—for the national reconciliation policy and the five-point solution to the Cambodian problem and expressed satisfaction at the meeting in France between Comrade Hun Sen and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

On the same morning, representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Trade, Communications, and Industry, of the Cambodian People's National Bank, and of the state-owned General Directorate for Rubber Plantations made clarifications in response to questions raised by various constituencies throughout the country.

The session was adjourned at 1100 and will be resumed at 1400 this afternoon.

7 February Afternoon Session

*BK071204 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1100 GMT 7 Feb 88*

[Text] On the afternoon of 7 February, the PRK First National Assembly's 14th session continued its work in accordance with the agenda.

On the evening of this fifth day, National Assembly members invited representatives from the ministries of planning, education, public health, information and culture, interior, national defense, finance, state affairs control, and justice, and the National Assembly's Legislative Commission, to clarify and answer questions raised by delegates from various constituencies to conform with the new changes [words indistinct].

The session adjourned at 1730 and will resume its work tomorrow morning 8 February.

Leaders at Closing Ceremony

*BK080559 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 8 Feb 88*

[Text] A grand ceremony was held at the office of the National Assembly at 0800 [0100 GMT] this morning to close the First National Assembly's 14th session, after proceeding successfully for 5 and 1/2 days.

Present at the presidium of the ceremony were Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee, chairman of the PRK Council of State, and National Assembly member of Phnom Penh constituency; Comrade Chea Sim member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council, and National Assembly member of Prey Veng constituency; Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of foreign affairs, and National Assembly member of Kompong Cham constituency; Comrade Say Phuthang, member of the party Central

Committee, chairman of the Central Control Commission, vice chairman of the Council of State, and National Assembly member of Phnom Penh constituency; Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and National Assembly member of Preah Vihear constituency; Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and National Assembly member of Kandal constituency; Mrs Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Central Organization Commission, and National Assembly member of Battambang constituency; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the National Assembly, chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions, and National Assembly member of Kompong Cham constituency; Superior Bonze Tep Vong, vice chairman of the National Assembly and National Assembly member of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey constituency; and Mrs Chan Sun, cadre attached to the Kandal provincial army's political department and National Assembly member of Kandal constituency.

Also attending this grand meeting as guests of honor were leaders from various central state institutions, ministries, and offices; Buddhist monks; and National Assembly members from the 20 constituencies throughout the country; as well as the ambassadors and embassy representatives of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and other friendly countries designated to Cambodia.

During this grand ceremony, the participants approved the National Assembly resolution concerning the report on the balance of the 1986 state budgets, the 1987 financial situation, and the 1988 financial targets and state budgets; and report on the implementation of the socioeconomic tasks in 1987 and the targets of the state plan of 1988. They also approved the National Assembly resolution ratifying the decree appointing three vice chairmen of the Council of Ministers and transferring a minister; and the PRK National Assembly statement supporting the summit meeting between Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

In his closing speech, Comrade Chea Sim highly valued the fruitful outcome of the 14th session of the National Assembly, first legislature, thanks to the fact that all assembly members had actively and patiently fulfilled their tasks in their capacity as the representatives of the interests of the people and nation, thus responding to the new changes and progress of the Cambodian revolution.

Comrade Chea Sim added that responding to this effort, more than ever before, all comrade members of the National Assembly must continue, with a lofty sense of responsibility, to make their contributions in order to ensure sufficient efficiency of all the measures put forth

by the National Assembly, and particularly they must do anything possible to turn all the resolutions of our National Assembly into concrete deeds in their respective constituencies.

Sihanouk, Khieu Samphan Meet in Beijing

Hold Second Round of Talks

*HK080648 Hong Kong AFP in English 0634 GMT
8 Feb 88*

[Text] Beijing, Feb 8 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk met Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan for the second consecutive day here Monday, as his aides refused to rule out his return as leader of the Cambodian resistance coalition. A source close to the prince said he had been in "excellent spirits" since his first talks with Mr. Khieu Samphan Sunday, which had lasted several hours and were held in a "very good atmosphere."

A reversal of the prince's decision on January 30 to resign as president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea is not impossible, his aides said, though he had termed his resignation "irreversible" and "irrevocable."

The Khmer Rouge leader said on arrival here Saturday he wanted to persuade Prince Sihanouk to change his mind. After the meeting Sunday, the former monarch said he needed "a fairly long delay for reflexion" on the question.

Analysts said the new uncertainty over Prince Sihanouk's intentions was a way of pressuring Vietnam to accept to hold direct talks with him.

Vietnam Thursday rejected an offer by the prince for direct talks on resolving the Cambodian problem. It however described the former monarch as a "free man," which diplomats here said could indicate some hesitation in Hanoi.

The resistance coalition, comprised of Sihanouk supporters, the Khmer Rouge and nationalists under Son Sann, field some 50,000 guerrillas against an estimated 140,000 Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia since late 1978.

Talks Set for Third Day

*HK081135 Hong Kong AFP in English 1128 GMT
8 Feb 88*

[Text] Beijing, Feb 8 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk met Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan here Monday for a second day, as the former monarch's aides refused to rule out his return as leader of the Cambodian resistance coalition.

Analysts say the uncertainty regarding Prince Sihanouk, who announced on January 30 his "definitive" and "irrevocable" resignation, was a way of pressuring Vietnam into holding direct talks with him.

In a telex Monday to his son Prince Norodom Rannarit, which AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE received a copy of here, Prince Sihanouk said he had put forward his views on a Cambodian solution to Mr. Khieu Samphan, who "found my proposals were very good."

Prince Sihanouk said he would meet with Mr. Khieu Samphan again in June or July, and reiterated his call for a provisional four-party government in Cambodia which would include his supporters, the Khmer Rouge, pro-Vietnam elements and nationalists under Son Sann.

This provisional government would hold general elections under international supervision and set up a constitutional assembly, he said.

The pro-Vietnam People's Republic of Kampuchea had to be dismantled, he said, adding "Samphan and I will continue to discuss this in June and July."

A source close to the prince said Monday that he had been in "excellent spirits" since his first talks with Mr. Khieu Samphan on Sunday which were held in a "very good atmosphere."

The Khmer Rouge leader said on arrival here Saturday from Bangkok that he wanted to persuade Prince Sihanouk to change his mind. After the meeting Sunday, the former monarch said he needed "a fairly long delay for reflexion."

He is to meet the prince again Tuesday, the prince's aides said.

Mr. Khieu Samphan is to leave Beijing Tuesday to attend a meeting in Bangkok of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea the next day.

Vietnam last Thursday rejected an offer by the prince for direct talks on a Cambodian solution. It however described him as a "free man," which diplomats here said could indicate some hesitation in Hanoi.

The resistance coalition, which groups Sihanouk supporters, the Khmer Rouge and nationalists under Son Sann, fields some 50,000 guerrillas against an estimated 140,000 Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia since late 1978.

CGDK To Meet 10 February Inside Country
*BK060750 Hong Kong AFP in English 0719 GMT
6 Feb 88*

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 6 (AFP)—A meeting of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) scheduled for Wednesday to discuss Prince Norodom Sihanouk's resignation as head of the Cambodian resistance will be held inside Cambodia, the prince's office here said Saturday.

A Bangkok-based spokesman for the pro-Sihanouk faction in the coalition also denied that Prince Norodom Rannarit, the son of the former Cambodian monarch, would attend the meeting in lieu of his father.

The denial followed a report from Paris that the CGDK would meet in Bangkok and that Prince Rannarit would attend the meeting as head of the Sihanoukist delegation.

The spokesman stressed that the CGDK, not being a government in exile, was used to meeting inside Cambodia in so-called "liberated zones." It was believed Wednesday's meeting would take place in a resistance camp near the Thai border.

The spokesman recalled an announcement Friday that Prince Rannarit had declined to join the political structure of the tripartite CGDK, even though he would continue to "closely cooperate" with the coalition's two other members in his capacity as commander in chief of the National Sihanoukist Army (ANS).

The CGDK was founded in 1982 and is recognized by the United Nations as the legitimate government of Cambodia. It is made up of the Khmer Rouge, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) and Prince Sihanouk's followers.

The Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh, headed by Prime Minister Hun Sen, is only recognized by communist countries and India.

Wednesday's meeting of the CGDK is expected to urge Prince Sihanouk to resume the leadership of the Cambodian resistance struggling against an estimated 140,000 Vietnamese troops stationed in Cambodia since late 1978.

Prince Sihanouk announced on January 30 that he was stepping down as president of the CGDK after the Khmer Rouge and the KPNLF refused to join in peace talks he had initiated with Mr. Hun Sen.

Rannarit Interview on Sihanouk-Hun Sen Talks
*BK070859 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer
in Cambodian 0500 GMT 7 Feb 88*

[Station correspondent (Kim San) Interview with Prince Norodom Rannarit, personal representative of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and commander in chief of the Sihanoukist Army; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [(Kim San)] I am (Kim San), VOK correspondent. Greetings to Prince Rannarit, personal representative of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and commander in chief of the Sihanoukist Army [ANS]. First of all, please allow me to ask the following questions.

You were present at the second peace talks between Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and Hun Sen. The result was that the two sides agreed on some points, while disagreeing on others. Would you please elaborate on each point of that meeting?

[Rannarit] First of all, I would like to thank you for interviewing me today upon my return from France after attending the second meeting to find peace for our beloved fatherland.

At the second meeting between Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and Hun Sen in France, as you said, there was both agreement and differences or disagreement between the two sides. This is true. The other side, that is Hun Sen, began by making the following request.

Concerning the agenda of the meeting, His Excellency Hun Sen suggested a five-point proposal:

1. The schedule of Vietnamese troop pullout from Cambodia.
2. The setting up of a coalition government. It was not specified whether it should be a national reconciliation government; it was referred to as a coalition government.
3. Cambodia's future political regime.
4. The principle of an independent, neutral, and non-aligned Cambodia.
5. Guarantees through an international conference to secure the agreement, if there should be such an agreement, among all Cambodian parties.

Hun Sen spoke about the first point—the Vietnamese troop pullout. He said this is of two types; the first one is a unilateral pullout, and the second is the pullout following an agreement. In short, Hun Sen said that no matter what, Vietnam will withdraw its forces in 1990. But this will be a unilateral pullout. Through his meeting with the samdech, Hun Sen wants an agreement among Cambodians to provide the possibility for Vietnam to pull out its forces before 1990. Hun Sen suggested the following proposal: Vietnam will withdraw all its forces from Cambodia within 30 months in three stages.

The samdech replied: Your Excellency, if my calculations are correct 30 months will take us beyond 1990 by half a year. In that case, what is the point of our meeting?

Why don't we just wait or fight until 1990, for by then Vietnam will have pulled out its forces. I, Sihanouk, have asked that you ensure that Vietnamese troops are pulled out from Cambodia very quickly. I propose 1988 or 1989 at the latest.

Hun Sen did not reply to this. Later he said to the samdech: the issue of the Vietnamese troop pullout from Cambodia is connected with another major issue, that of the Khmer Rouge and the Khmer Rouge threat to the Cambodian people. What is the samdech's view of the elimination of the Khmer Rouge as a military force? We think that Phnom Penh will accept the Khmer Rouge as a political force but we have to eliminate the Khmer Rouge as a military force. What is the samdech's view?

The samdech replied. Your Excellency, I and my family, like all Cambodians, have been the victims of the Khmer Rouge. However, first of all, do we have the capability to eliminate the Khmer Rouge? For the past 8 years Vietnam's forces, numbering between 140,000 and 160,000 men and now totaling 140,000, have been unable to eliminate the Khmer Rouge. What can I, Sihanouk, do? Secondly, I have told our great friend, the PRC, that following the Vietnamese troop withdrawal, we should lay down our weapons—or at least, all Cambodian forces should be equal and that no Cambodian party should have the ability to threaten the Cambodian people or threaten another party with force of arms. The PRC refused to agree. This means that China will not allow the Khmer Rouge to be eliminated at any cost. So what can I do? I would like to make this proposal to Your Excellency: if we are talking about national reconciliation and wanting to avoid the threat of one party against another, I ask Your Excellency to set up a quadripartite force. We should not eliminate anyone. Instead, we should set up a quadripartite army with a quadripartite command, which would be Cambodia's national army comprising a quadripartite force. This way, no one threatens anyone else.

In short, if agreement is to be reached, it is based on a single issue. Both the samdech and Hun Sen, agreed that Vietnam should get out of Cambodia. When and under what conditions this should be done is where the disagreement lies. Hun Sen said no matter what, Vietnam will be out by 1990. Let's try to make it happen before 1990, maybe by a month or so.

The samdech said no. He disagreed. Vietnam should pull out all its forces from Cambodia. This is where we agree.

There is another important point. In France, as in Thailand, from what I read in the papers, there is a misunderstanding. Observers and some Cambodian politicians said the samdech wants to set up a government only with Hun Sen, a bipartite government with Hun Sen. On this issue, I would like to affirm to you and to respected VOK compatriots and listeners, that the samdech made the following proposal to Hun Sen:

We should set up a provisional coalition government. This government should not include only representatives from Phnom Penh and the samdech's side. He said this provisional coalition government must be a quadripartite one. In other words, in this government, there should be representatives from the Democratic Kampuchean side, His Excellency Son Sann's party, the samdech's movement, and the Phnom Penh regime. However, the samdech added this to Hun Sen, if the other two sides—namely, the Democratic Kampuchean side and His Excellency Son Sann's party—do not care to join, should we wait? The samdech added: if the other two sides do not join, I am willing to set up this government with you. However, once we have formed this government, we, I, Sihanouk, will continue to invite the other two personalities and parties to join in this coalition government.

What is the nature of this coalition government? The first thing is that it should be a quadripartite government, if this is possible. If the other two sides do not join, is this the samdech's fault? This is the first characteristic,

The second is that this Cambodian provisional government has the obligation to organize elections, free elections through secret ballots under the supervision of an international committee. What is all this for? This is to allow the Cambodian people complete freedom in choosing and electing their representatives without threat from this or that person, from the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen forces, from the Khmer Rouge forces, from the samdech forces, or from the Son Sann forces. In other words, the Cambodian people should have adequate freedom in choosing and electing their representatives, who are the representatives of the Cambodian people. These representatives should sit in a Cambodian National Assembly. This National Assembly has the duty to draft a constitution. The National Assembly, which represents the people, has the mandate to draft the constitution and select a political and economic regime appropriate to the Cambodian people's aspirations. This is the samdech's proposal to Hun Sen.

Furthermore, before the setting up of this provisional government, the samdech said an international force should be present in Cambodia. What for?

1. To ensure the complete withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.
2. This international force has the obligation to strive to act as a barrier, following the Vietnamese troop pullout, to prevent the Khmer Rouge from seizing power through weapons and threatening the Cambodian people.

On this issue, Hun Sen did not reply. Furthermore, the samdech said this provisional government will be set up when the Phnom Penh regime, namely the PRK, is dissolved and so is Democratic Kampuchea. Why should this be so? Because we have to elect new people's representatives and a new Cambodian government. Therefore, we should have neither Democratic Kampuchea nor the PRK.

Hun Sen disagreed on this issue. He said elections should be organized within the framework of his government and regime. The samdech completely disagreed on this issue.

The samdech said he is willing to go to Cambodia to vote only when:

1. There is not a single Vietnamese soldier in Cambodia.
2. Hun Sen's government, the PRK regime, is dissolved.
3. An international force is present in Cambodia.

These are the three conditions the samdech presented to Hun Sen. On this point, I, Norodom Rannarit, would like to affirm to respected VOK compatriots and listeners that the Phnom Penh regime keeps saying that Vietnam cannot withdraw because of the Khmer Rouge threat. If this is the case, then Phnom Penh and Vietnam should agree with Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk's proposal, according to which Cambodia should be under an international force's supervision. When this force arrives, there should be some Vietnamese troops left in Cambodia, to comfort Heng Samrin. Therefore, the Vietnamese troop pullout is in three stages. In the second stage, all Vietnamese troops should be withdrawn. And before the third stage of the troop pullout, the international force will be present.

When the international force arrives, it should ensure, as I said, that:

1. All Vietnamese troops are withdrawn.
2. Neither the Khmer Rouge nor any other party is in a position to seize power in Cambodia through force of arms.

As for the Democratic Kampuchean side, or any other side, it should agree to this. The international force would be in Cambodia to ensure that Vietnam pulls out all its troops from the country. Therefore, all the parties, if they are really patriotic, should agree to this proposal. Hun Sen told the samdech: Mine is not a lackey regime of the Vietnamese; it is an independent regime. If this is really so, there should not be any problem. He should agree that an international force supervises the complete pullout of Vietnamese forces. He further said that he is most afraid of the Khmer Rouge. If this is so, he should agree to the presence of the international force to ensure that the Khmer Rouge do not strangle Cambodia. The other parties within the coalition government should also agree. Currently, what are we fighting for? We are not fighting to seize state power. We are fighting to liberate our nation from the grip of the Vietnamese aggressors. Or are we, indeed, fighting to seize power? As for us, the samdech's forces, we are not fighting to seize power. We are fighting to liberate our country and nation and the Cambodian people from the Vietnamese aggressors' yoke. The time at which the samdech proposed the international force should be in Cambodia, Vietnamese forces would already have been withdrawn in the two previous stages. In the third stage of the pullout, the international force should be present. And there should

be a provisional Cambodian government. This international force will ensure that all Vietnamese are out of Cambodia. Once all the Vietnamese are out of Cambodia, what else do we want?

This is why I appeal to all compatriots in Cambodia to stage demonstrations, write petitions, or do whatever to appeal to the Phnom Penh Government and other parties to agree to the samdech's proposal, because this is the only proposal which can ensure 100% independence to Cambodia and provide a 100% guarantee to the Cambodian people that there will be neither Vietnamese nor Khmer Rouge to massacre Cambodians. What else do we ask for?

Among all of us who have endured difficulties and hardship, some refuse to live with the Vietnamese and prefer to fight; others agree to live with the Vietnamese temporarily for fear of the Khmer Rouge. Therefore, we should find a way out. We should unite on one thing and accept the samdech's proposal to request the presence of a foreign force, as I have said again and again, to:

1. Ensure that all Vietnamese troops are out of Cambodia.
2. Ensure that no other party massacres the Cambodian people again.

This is a guarantee for the future. Any party, any Cambodians who oppose this major objective will show to national and international opinion that they are not patriots, are not really Cambodians, and do not respect Cambodia's interests and Cambodia's aspiration.

[(Kim San)] Finally, would you please address the Cambodian people, in particular all Cambodian resistance forces.

[(Rannarit)] In my position as personal representative of the samdech and as a Cambodian resistance fighter among all patriotic resistance fighters, my request—this is not a message or anything like that—is that:

1. When Vietnam and the Soviet Union allow His Excellency, Mr Hun Sen, to meet with the samdech, it means that Vietnam is in a position of weakness. Make no mistake, communism, when it is strong, would not bother to talk to us. For example, when Vietnam invaded Cambodia at the end of 1978 and in 1979, Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk wrote to Pham Van Dong saying: you used to be a friend of mine. I used to help the Vietnamese national liberation movement. Now you have committed aggression against my country. Please meet me to resolve this issue. Pham Van Dong did not even reply. He sent the unopened message back to the samdech. Now Pham Van Dong has written to the samdech with warm and very nice words of friendship and solidarity. This is of great significance. It means that Vietnam is wooing the samdech. Why didn't Vietnam do this before? Because Vietnam was strong then. Vietnam hoped to be able to annex Cambodia. Vietnam was

victorious against France and the United States. Vietnam can certainly annex Cambodia without any negotiations with Samdech Sihanouk. Now, it is the opposite. This is the first point. It shows that Vietnam is weak at home and in the international arena.

2. As long as the samdech's peace talks continue, he more and more needs the support of all his followers. How can they assist him?

Although Vietnam is in agony, we dare not say that it is gasping its last breath. However, it is in a weakened position and we should more vigorously support the national liberation movement, in particular the samdech forces, so that they can pressure the Vietnamese forces and those of Hun Sen for more flexibility to resolve the Cambodian problem in accordance with Cambodia's interests.

Furthermore, while people in the international arena are supporting the samdech's new policy, you compatriots in the country should show the world that you are not willing to live under Vietnam's tutelage or colonialism. Like the citizens of other peace- and justice-loving countries the world over, respected compatriots, you should show the world that you support the new royal policy to search for a peaceful solution to the Cambodian problem—not through armed force and military means but through peaceful avenues in concert with Cambodian parties as well as with Vietnam.

What should we do to express this will? As I have just said, we can write petitions, many of them—if you are afraid, these can be anonymous—and send them to all levels of Cambodian leadership. As for Cambodian compatriots who are temporarily serving within the ranks of the Heng Samrin forces and believe that the threat from the Khmer Rouge still exists, now that the samdech has put forward a new proposal to avoid this danger, you, as genuine patriots, should leave the ranks of the Heng Samrin forces to be with those of the samdech to promote the correct solution the samdech is seeking. I believe we have the ability to do this. From inside Cambodia and in camps, for example, we should produce more and more of these letters, and send them to humanitarian organizations and leaders of the United States, China, and European countries saying that we, as Cambodians, do not need either Vietnam or the genocidal regime. We need a Cambodia with freedom and liberal democracy and with 100% independence.

[[Kim San]] In my own name as a VOK correspondent and on behalf of all VOK listeners, I would like to express profound gratitude to Prince Norodom Rannarit, personal representative of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and commander in chief of the ANS, for allowing me to question you on subjects of significance to all Cambodian compatriots and VOK listeners.

Laos

Reported Thai Attacks, Defensive Responses *BK060058 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao* *0000 GMT 6 Feb 88*

[Text] According to reports from Boten District, at 0700 yesterday, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries deployed their infantry to attack the positions of our forces at Na Banoi canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province. They were repulsed, however, by our Lao soldiers and retreated after suffering heavy casualties. Our forces managed to securely defend their positions.

At the same time, they also sent F-5 fighter-bombers to fly many sorties of harassment in the area. The reports also said that beginning at 0600 on the same day, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries indiscriminately fired several rounds of artillery at our soldiers' positions.

Aircraft Sorties Reported *BK070048 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao* *0000 GMT 7 Feb 88*

[Text] According to reports from Boten District, at 1000 yesterday the Thai ultrarightist reactionary forces sent aircraft to fly many sorties to intrude into Lao airspace in Na Banoi canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province. One F-5 fighter-bomber dropped bombs on the positions of our forces. They also fired several artillery shells against various hills.

The reports also added that throughout the day of 3 February, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary forces indiscriminately lobbed some 1,000 artillery shells at the positions of our armed forces while their infantry mounted four attacks. However, they were strongly repulsed by our armed forces in Boten District and were forced to retreat after suffering heavy casualties.

Thai Plane Reportedly Damaged *BK080110 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao* *0000 GMT 8 Feb 88*

[Text] According to a local news report from Boten District, at 1530 on 6 February, our soldiers and people in Boten District, Sayaboury Province, shot down one Thai reconnaissance plane while it was flying in violation of Lao airspace over an area as many as 10 km deep in Lao territory. Later, at 1110 yesterday [7 February], our soldiers in Boten District also shot and damaged another Thai reconnaissance aircraft while it was flying over Lao airspace. The aircraft later flew back to Thai territory with a swaying motion.

During the past 2 days—6 and 7 February—along with mobilizing aircraft to fly reconnaissance missions and to bomb positions of our armed forces in Na Banoi canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary troops continued to indiscriminately fire

hundreds of artillery shells into the areas. Simultaneously, they dispatched more reinforcements and weapons to various points in preparation for launching new attacks against our armed forces' positions.

Two Aircraft Said Downed

*BK081027 Vientiane KPL in English
0907 GMT 8 Feb 88*

[Text] Vientiane, February 8 (KPL)—The Lao regional Army and people in Boten District, Sayaboury Province, on February 5 and 7 [dates as received], shot down an A-37 plane and a guided spy-aircraft.

From February 6 to 7 besides using reconnaissance flights over and jet fighter bomber F-5s to bomb the Lao territory in Na Banoi Village, Boten District, Sayaboury Province, the Thai rightist reactionaries also pounded hundreds of artillery shells against the Lao territory and have reinforced their troops with fresh soldiers and weapons in the preparation of further attacks.

Earlier, on February 5 about 1,000 rounds of artillery shells were salvoed and 4 ground attacks were launched against the Lao local army's positions. But, each time, they were forced to pull-back with heavy losses.

Thai Attacks Reviewed

*BK070930 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0430 GMT 7 Feb 88*

[Text] The nibbling attacks on Lao territory by Thai ultrarightist reactionary forces in the past week are considered to be the heaviest since Thailand deployed its armed forces to attack and annex Lao soil in Na Banoi canton, Boten District, on 15 December of last year. The most violent attacks were carried out during the period when the so-called "Operation to Conquer" was implemented.

Prior to launching this operation, beginning at 1000 on 31 January, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary forces fired all kinds of artillery at the positions of the Boten District armed forces to pave the way for infantry assaults, which were repulsed by the Boten armed forces. The Thai infantry retreated in panic.

From 1800 on 31 January to 0600 on 1 February, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary forces fired almost 200 artillery shells at our Lao Armed Forces positions.

At 1015 on 1 February, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary forces fired smoke bombs at the Boten District armed forces positions. Following this, F-5 and A-37 aircraft flew 11 sorties into Lao airspace, intruding some 30 km inside Lao territory. The aircraft dropped bombs on many hills in Boten District. However, one of the aircraft was shot down by Boten District air defense forces. It was the first Thai plane downed by our armed forces since the dispute began.

From 0310 on 2 February, they fired about 2,000 rounds of various types of artillery at the Boten armed forces positions and sent F-5 aircraft to conduct four bombing runs, dropping cluster bombs and delayed-action bombs. At the same time, a high-level officer from the Thai Army declared that the Thai Armed Forces would launch a large-scale operation to drive Lao soldiers out of the disputed area within 2 days.

From dawn to dusk on 3 February, they fired about 2,000 artillery shells against several hills, sent F-5 aircraft to conduct six bombing sorties in the area, and deployed infantry to mount assaults in the area. However, they were repulsed by the Lao Armed Forces on all occasions and forced to retreat after suffering many dead and wounded.

From 0600 on 4 February, the Thai side fired assorted artillery shells at the Boten armed forces positions in Na Banoi canton. At the same time, infantry were dispatched to attack the Lao positions for about 4 hours. But heavy casualties were inflicted on them by the Boten armed forces and they were forced to retreat. At 0700 on the same day, their F-5 aircraft heavily bombed the area. However, one of them was shot down by our air defense forces.

Beginning at 0700, they deployed infantry to mount four attacks on our positions but met with stiff resistance from our armed forces. They retreated after suffering some losses. Earlier, at 0600, they indiscriminately fired artillery at the area to open the way for infantry attacks. At the same time, F-5 fighter-bombers flew six bombing and intimidation sorties against the area.

At 1000 on 6 February, they sent two F-5 aircraft to fly reconnaissance and bombing missions over the area. They also fired artillery in an indiscriminate and continuous manner for several hours.

In brief, it can be seen that in the past week the situation was extremely tense since the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries launched nibbling attacks to annex Lao territory on 15 December 1987, especially during the so-called "Operation to Conquer" period from 2 to 5 February. However, highly upholding the spirit of patriotism, the heroic armed forces of Boten District meted out due punishment on the enemies—inflicting even more painful and heavier defeats, managing to smash the enemy operation within a short period of time, and making a pipedream out of the declaration by the Thai warmongers representative that he would settle the conflict by military means and drive the red Lao elements out of the area within 2 days. As a result, Thai public opinion is more likely not to believe any further arrogant statements made by this reactionary Thai officer who mas-termined the so-called "Operation to Conquer" that has been ignominiously thwarted.

SPC Issues Statement on Fighting
BK060214 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 6 Feb 88

["Statement issued by the LPDR SPC's 1988 plenary session on the tense situation on the Lao-Thai border caused by Thai side"; dated 4 February]

[Text] After hearing a report on the tense situation caused by the Thai side in Na Banoi canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province, the LPDR SPC's 1988 plenary session is in full unanimity on the stand and resolution adopted by the LPDR Government as stated in the 25 January 1988 statement and in the report presented by the chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers to this SPC plenary session on the said situation.

The annual plenary session of the SPC unanimously agreed that the escalation of nibbling attacks of an unprecedented magnitude in the past 12 years by the Thai powerholders is an overt arrogant act of encroachment on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the LPDR, undermining the traditional brotherly relations between the peoples of Laos and Thailand. The said adventurous military act constitutes a serious violation of the spirit and letter of the 1907 French-Siamese Treaty and the two 1979 joint Lao-Thai communiques; it runs counter to the trend of negotiations and settlement of conflicts through talks, which is vigorously developing in Southeast Asia and the world at present; and it also violates the UN Charter and the various fundamental principles in international relations.

The annual plenary session of the SPC unanimously reaffirms that the area in Na Banoi canton has been located within Lao territory both in a legitimate and historical sense since 1907 when the peoples of the two countries respected the borderline stated in the said [1907] treaty that regards the Heuang River as the borderline; that was why no untoward incidents occurred in the area in the past. The Lao people of all tribes, who have made an untold number of sacrifices and have experienced numerous difficulties caused by the wars of aggression waged by foreigners in the past several decades, strongly cherish peace, aspire to develop and build their own country, and want to maintain friendly relations and cooperation with all countries, especially neighboring countries.

Faced with the escalation of the new large-scale nibbling attacks mounted by the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, the Lao Armed Forces and people in Boten District, exercising their just right of self-defense, have dealt them heavy blows.

The SPC's 1988 plenary session wholeheartedly hails the esteemed sense of patriotism and obvious gallant acts [of the Boten armed forces and people] in thwarting the attempts to annex Lao territory. It (?reaffirms) the determination of the entire Lao people to resolutely unite and

exercise their legitimate right of self-defense to safeguard the esteemed sovereignty and territorial integrity of their country and, at the same time, to resolutely and securely preserve the traditional friendship and brotherly relations between the Lao and Thai peoples.

On behalf of the Lao people of all tribes, the SPC calls on all the peoples, parliaments, and governments of all peace- and justice-loving friendly countries throughout the world to render sympathy and support to the just struggle of the Lao people. We demand that the Thai powerholders cease immediately, urgently, and unconditionally the serious nibbling acts to annex Lao territory and to turn towards settling the conflicts through peaceful means in accordance with the statement issued by the Lao Government.

[Dated] 4 February 1988

[Issued by] The 1988 SPC plenary session

Minister's Message to UN Security Council
BK061216 Vientiane KPL in English
0945 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 6 (KPL)—Aloun Keositthikoun, charge d'affaires of the Lao PDR to the U.N., on February 3, met Mr. Walter, ambassador and permanent representative of the United States of America to the U.N. and acting chairman of the U.N. Security Council for the month of February and presented him a telegramme sent by Phoun Sipaseut, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs, to the chairman of the U.N. Security Council.

The telegramme deplored the escalation of armed attacks and attempts of annexation of Lao territory in Na Banoi village, Boten District, Sayaboury Province, carried out by Thai ultrarightist army in response to the Lao side's appeal for negotiation.

The Lao charge d'affaires, on this occasion, explained and showed the president of the Security Council maps and protocol made by Franco-Siam in 1907 relating to the borderline. The Lao charge d'affaires urged the U.N. Security Council president to use his competence and power to carry out his duty according to the U.N. Charter.

UN Secretary General Responds
BK061236 Vientiane KPL in English
0925 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 6 (KPL)—UN secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, yesterday sent a message to Phoun Sipaseut, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs of the Lao PDR over the armed conflict opposing Laos and Thailand.

The message writes:

"I avail myself of this opportunity to thank you for addressing to me a message on January 30, 1988, over the evolution of the relations between your country and Thailand and especially along the dispute border...."

I regret that armed incidents continue to occur. In these conditions, I review the urgent appeal I have addressed to both sides appealing them to more restraint in order to prevent any new deterioration of the situation and to promote a [word indistinct] urged the two governments to resume negotiation without any delay. I assure you that I avail myself to ease this process. I also sent with the same mail a similar message to the foreign minister of Thailand...." The message concluded.

Commentary on Border Dispute With Thailand
BK071048 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT
7 Feb 88

["Misinformation Cannot Cover Failure"—KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, February 7 (KPL)—The daily PASASON hails, in its commentary today, the victories scored by the people and local armed forces of Boten District, Sayaboury Province, in their heroic struggle against Thai aggressors.

The paper recalls that Thailand has suffered great losses of lives and properties in its land-grabbing operation against Lao Boten District, Sayaboury Province, occurred since mid-December last year. To save its face, Thailand has applied all advanced types of weapons—such as F-5E fighter-bombers, chemical and phosphorous bombs, multiple fraction bombs, delayed-action bombs and other means of warfare—in its barbaric aggression of Laos in the area. "However, the damages inflicted on the Thai reactionary troops due to the strong rebuff by the local Lao Army and people are also multiplied," PASASON notes, adding that due to this fact Thailand had to resort to the use of intoxication-propaganda with misleading facts hoping to help save its troops from an uneasy and pell-mell state.

"But," PASASON notes, "nobody will ever believe in such a fabrication by the Thai ruling circles, because a cry of pain and grief from the Thai soldiers and their families still remains heard." This intoxication-propaganda is merely aimed at persuading more young Thai people, especially the poor "ee-san" [northeastern Thailand] families, to become human shields for a handful of ruling groups in the Bangkok administration in this land-grabbing operation.

"An intensification of armed disputes will merely bring about more tears and blood. To end such a misery state, only bilateral talks on equal footing and with no preconditions could do it," PASASON concludes.

Philippines

New Rebel Brigade Threatens U.S. Personnel
HK080141 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company
in English 2300 GMT 7 Feb 88

[Text] Communist rebels operating near Clark Air Base are reported to be threatening more attacks against U.S. troops following the arrest of some 20 leading party members in Manila. The latest threats against the Americans were made on Friday during a press conference. According to reports, the rebels have announced the formation of the Mariano Garcia Brigade to carry out attacks in Central Luzon.

PC Chief on NPA Threats
HK081223 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
1000 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] In Camp Olivas, Pampanga, PC chief Major General Ramon Montano said that the NPA threat to kill Americans is a retaliation against their involvement in the government's anti-insurgency campaign. In an interview with Montano by Pampanga reporters, the PC chief confirmed that the threat was real. He added that the rebels are capable of launching such an offensive but it will not benefit them at all. If the NPA carries out the threat against U.S. personnel, their livelihood will surely be affected.

De Villa Alerts Military Against NPA Attacks
BK080259 Manila PNA in English 0240 GMT
8 Feb 88

[Text] Manila, Feb. 8 (PNA-OANA)—Philippine Armed Forces Chief Gen. Renato S. de Villa has alerted field commanders throughout the country against possible retaliatory attacks by the communist New People's Army (NPA) in light of the mass arrest of 20 top Communist Party leaders in Manila and suburbs last week.

Security measures were also tightened around the premises where the captured dissidents are being detained in Camp Bago Bantay, in suburban Quezon City.

Col. Oscar Florendo, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] spokesman, said intelligence reports indicated that communist rebels might stage lightning raids in retaliation for the capture of the 20.

The military has invited foreign and local newsmen to visit the quarters of the captured dissident leaders to see for themselves how the detainees are being treated.

Meanwhile, Florendo disclosed that 15 of the suspects wanted to avail of the services of a lawyer to defend them.

The military has released five suspects for lack of evidence against them.

Florendo also said that military doctors have been assigned to look after the detainee's health and medical needs.

One of the suspects, Wilhelmina Balistoy, admitted before newsmen that she has been with the communist underground for seven years.

Balistoy and another arrested suspect, Veronica Tabara, said they have expected things to happen—referring to their capture.

Charges Filed Against 13 Captured Rebels

*HK070624 Quezon City Sports Radio 738
in English 0500 GMT 7 Feb 88*

[Text] Charges of illegal possession of firearms and explosives in the furtherance of rebellion were filed against 13 of the 20 captured suspected communist leaders. However, five of them were ordered released for lack of evidence. Armed Forces spokesman Oscar Florendo said the charges were filed before the fiscal's offices in Pasig, Makati, Santa Cruz, Laguna, and in Quezon City. Florendo said the military has also readied charges against Father Rustico Tan, one of the 20 suspected CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA personalities captured in a series of raids in Metro Manila and Laguna.

Those charged included Father Nicholas Ruiz, Tomas Dominador, Alberto David, Noli Narca, Nestor and Yvette Nachura, Veronica Parcio Tabara, Isidro Caballes, Rizaldy Gomia, Efren Capilla, (Rolando Matao Cortesa), Lydia Narca, and Paterna Ruiz.

Florendo said those under detention are being treated well. He said the others, who turned out to be mere household help, were released from the custody of the military.

Informer Led to Arrests

*HK060329 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company
in English 2300 GMT 5 Feb 88*

[Text] A captured member of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army had pointed to military operatives the rebels' safehouses in Metro Manila and in Laguna. This eventually led to the capture of 20 ranking communist rebels.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa, who withheld the identity of the captured rebel, made the disclosure Thursday night during a television program.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos had indicated that the presence of top CPP personalities in Metro Manila would mean that they would attend some kind of a plenum, which is a top-level conference held annually by the CPP Central Committee. However, Ramos also said members of the Central Committee could be in Metro

Manila because they could be individually assigned to plan an operation for the Metro Manila area. General de Villa shared the view of Ramos.

In the meantime, De Villa said the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] intelligence also set up its surveillance activities to flush out NPA rebels hiding in the metropolis. This, he said, resulted in the capture of the top CPP personalities.

Aside from the capture of the 20 top CPP members, voluminous subversive documents and communications equipment were also seized by the military. Among them were computer machines and diskettes used by the CPP in its sophisticated communications network in Metro Manila.

Armed Forces on NPA Terrorist Activities

*HK081211 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 8 Feb*

[Passages within slantlines in English]

[Text] Armed Forces spokesman Colonel Oscar Florendo issued the following statement this afternoon, which is read by Captain Annie Agpay.

[Begin recording] [Agpay] /Once again the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] through its military arm the New People's Army, has come out openly to declare war, not only against the government and its Armed Forces but also this time against noncombatant civilians, most especially women and children, killing them and holding them hostage. The other day, they burned down a place of religious worship. Inevitably, as in the Bicol region, where the CPP-NPA terrorists in the area blew up bridges, hijacked trains, and abducted and killed religious workers. These acts of sheer brutality and, to say the least, wanton violation of human rights only served one purpose, that is for the people to hate them personally for the unwanted suffering on their part.

/In the latest report to General Renato de Villa, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief, Brigadier General Felix Brawner said that CPP-NPA terrorists, particularly in Regions 1 and 2 in Northern Luzon, are now burning chapels in addition to killing non-combatant women or holding them as hostages in exchange for firearms.

/According to Brigadier General Brawner more than 60 heavily armed terrorists on February 5, 1988 at about 1:00 am struck in three places: The 120th PC Company, PC-INP-CHDF detachment at Barangay Bulugan, and the homes of CHDF personnel at barangay Labian and Bantay Pounding, also in Baggaon, Cagayan.

/Due to the superior numbers of terrorists the government forces withdrew after some 4 hours of fire-fight while the terrorists lobbed several grenades at non-combatants on the scene killing Jeffrey Cudal, Dexter

Orpilla, and Jennifer Cabrera, and wounding William Salbater and nine other unidentified civilians. As if killing innocent bystanders was not enough, the NPA burned down the Catholic chapel where some civilians who were praying sought refuge.

/Earlier last week, the CPP-NPA terrorists cold-bloodedly mauled six civilians, four of them women, after overrunning the Dilong patrol base of the 137th PC Company in Tubo, Abra. Seven government troopers were killed and three others were wounded.

/The following day February 3, in a more than 30-hour firefight, 1:30 am to 8:00 am, some 500 CPP-NPA terrorists swooped down on the PC-INP-CHDF headquarters at Tinglayan, Kalinga-Apayao. In spite of their superior numbers the terrorists were unable to inflict casualties on the troopers and in their frustration took as hostages the wives of the [word indistinct] person, brought them to barangay Ibat and Masua in the outskirts of Tinglayan. Five hours later at about 1:30 pm, and with the exception of two constables, the terrorists forced the surrender of the head of the PC-INP-CHDF elements Police Lieutenant A. Olagin by threatening to kill the hostages wives and children. The government side did not sustain any casualties in the whole incident, the report said.

/The CPP terrorists have gone berserk clearly due to the current steady but continuous success of the AFP on all fronts of the counter insurgency operations. All CPP-NPA efforts have been and will be [word indistinct] frustrated as their movements are now becoming futile, if not cold and inhuman./

[Reporter] Captain, Col Florendo has described a lot of CPP-NPA-CHDF terrorist attacks in several parts of the country. Besides the arrest of the 20 top CPP leaders in Metro Manila, what is the military's next move against the NPA units?

[Agpay] The all-out war directive from the commander in chief and the offensive operations by the military are currently in force.

[Reporter] Do we expect more arrests by the military in the days to come?

[Agpay] I cannot comment on that but offensive operations are still in force and these directives come from our commander in chief.

[Reporter] We received a report from Negros Occidental saying that the CPP-NDF has declared a total war against the government. Was Colonel Florendo's statement in response to the declaration by the CPP-NDF in Negros Occidental?

[Agpay] Yes, because they are already causing a lot of harm to civilians. They no longer care whether the person is civilian or military, and the citizens should be informed about the CPP-NPA activities.

[Reporter] Thank you very much Capt Annie Agpay.
[end recording]

Officers Discuss NPA Operations, Tactics
HK051321 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television
Arts Network in English 1430 GMT 4 Feb 88

["Straight From the Shoulder" program with moderator Luis Beltran; Congressman Rudolfo Gutang; Brigadier General Rodolfo Biazon, commanding general of the National Capital Region Defense Command and concurrent commandant of the Philippine Marines; Major General Ramon Montano, commanding general of the PC and director general of the PC-INP; General Renato de Villa, Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff; retired General Luis Villareal; P.N. Abinelas, research associate of the Third World Study Center, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of the Philippines, and lecturer in the Department of Political Science; Attorney Antonio Bernas, businessman and president of the Philippine Wood Products Association; EVENING STAR defense reporter Rodney Jaledo; and GMA-7 reporter Jessica Sojo]

[Excerpts] [Beltran] Okay, first question is for General Renato de Villa. Tell us what happened, can you give us a background as to why suddenly after 100 policemen have been killed, the NPA's reputation has been one of invincibility and invisibility, and you come up with 20 of the top leadership overnight?

[De Villa] This is actually the result of special intelligence projects, specifically that of the intelligence service, in cooperation with the NCRDC [National Capital Region Defense Command] under General Blas Biazon and the Capcom [Capital Regional Command] under General Aguirre.

[Beltran] I noticed that the Armed Forces has been notorious for inter-service rivalry. The Navy will not help the Army, the Air Force, etc., and all of a sudden in your first major operation you have the NCRDC with the marines in it, with the Capcom.

[De Villa] We feel that since we are all in one Armed Forces and we are working for the same purpose or the same objectives, I think this is a very beautiful development in so far as inter-service cooperation or inter-command cooperation is concerned.

Now, going back to the people we bagged in the past 2 days, I was saying that this was really the result of painstaking intelligence work. I will reveal it for the first time. We have been watching that hospital of the NPA in Fairview for some time because we knew that they were going to use it, and when they set it up we knew they are

going to escalate their assassination activities here in Metro Manila. True enough, after they hit two Capcom men in Caloocan, one of them was wounded and was brought to that hospital. But at the same time, the ISAP [expansion unknown] has been developing its projects, targetting what is now being called by the NPA as a national command base. When they were able to spot one NPA member, positively identified, coming out from a certain place, they grabbed him and he started cooperating and letting the agents know where are the other places.

[Beltran] I noticed in the narration of the incident, sir, they seem to be covering a rather big area in Metro Manila, from Makati, Caloocan, Pasig, etc.; they seem to be all over.

[De Villa] The farthest, Luis, was in the Pacita complex in San Pedro, Laguna, and far north it is Marikina and Novaliches.

[Beltran] So you have been able to neutralize them?

[De Villa] Yes, all of these places which were pinpointed by the initial captive.

[Beltran] You think this has neutralized the activities of the NPA Sparrows in Metro Manila?

[De Villa] We cannot be very certain of that, Luis, because the people that we have captured, many of them are top personalities who would not get themselves engaged in liquidation missions. We feel that there is something going on or something being planned. But what is important here is we got a lot of documents, a lot of computer diskettes...

[Beltran] You mean to tell me that the NPA is now into computers?

[De Villa] Yes, they have a communications system that is computerized and can convert from a computer machine a radio transmission and pick up from a similar machine and then convert it into a printout.

[Beltran] So they have gone from the pasa-bilis [hand-carried messages] system of bicycles to computer print-out communication?

[De Villa] We are still evaluating and decoding some of the documents that were captured and we would know in due time what this is all about. But basically, many of the NPA personalities that have been captured in the past 24 to 48 hours are personalities coming from the Visayas: the Eastern Visayas regional party committee, the Central Visayas regional party committee, as well as the Manila side.

[Beltran] Are they being driven out of the Visayas or are they coming here because they are planning something?

[De Villa] We cannot answer that very accurately at this point, Luis. But some time ago, Metro Manila has been declared by the central committee as an open area or an open city, such that people as far as Mindanao, from the (Komit) come and operate here. So, it is possible that they are here for a purpose. We will determine that soon enough.

[Beltran] Okay, we also have with us Major General Ramon Montano of the PC and the PC-INP. General Villareal was telling me at one time that perhaps the Philippine Army, Marines, etc., should be the ones fighting the NPA or insurgents in the field, and then the house cleaning, especially in the urban areas, should be done by the PC-INP. Is this part of the strategy now being employed?

[Montano] Yes, actually, Luis, that is what we are following now. The combatants from the other AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] units are the ones in charge of the insurgency campaign, as far as the countryside is concerned. The PC-INP is more in the urban centers and also in the town centers and the poblaciones [small municipalities]. Our role is to destroy the infrastructure of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA in these urban areas rather than seeking and destroying them in the countryside. That is the role of the other AFP elements.

[Beltran] At the same time you also have problems. I remember attending one conference before and I do not remember who was the general who said that there was something like 400 organized gangs and syndicates operating in the Philippines, ranging from carjacking to gunrunning, to operating gambling, etc. That, too, is your problem.

[Montano] That is our main problem, we address ourselves against the criminal groups rather than the insurgents as far as the whole PC-INP is concerned.

[Beltran] You have a reputation as a very tough general whose troops have the habit of leaving dead bodies when they have encounters with carjackers and robbers, and things like that. So, I would presume that that kind of a reputation would improve peace and order. But in tactical terms you also have a problem of corruption in the Philippine Constabulary as well as in the PC-INP. I think in terms of the Armed Forces unit you have the most criticisms. Is there a problem right now, as far as you are concerned, to weed out these people?

[Montano] Yes, we have a program on this and it is based on the national leadership's drive to get rid of misfits or scalawags in the government service, and we are doing this very thoroughly in the PC-INP. I am just following my predecessor in so far as this particular campaign is concerned.

[Beltran] I am sure that as soon as we get started on the question, there are a lot of people watching out there who know about corrupt policemen and PC men, who would be willing to participate. It has been dangerous in the past and I think under this administration they are encouraged that something is done about it. Where would they go? Perhaps they would endanger their lives reporting on the scallawags that you mentioned. Does the Armed Forces or the PC have some units where the people can send in complaints? Perhaps anonymous ones that you people can investigate later on?

[De Villa] We have a system in the Armed Forces which takes care of disciplinary problems. This is based in the offices of the various inspector generals of the units. In the Armed Forces headquarters, for instance, we have the office of the inspector general and this is under General Peralta. In the various major services they also have their inspector generals. But the public can complain to any office or any unit commandant, all the way to the very top, regarding grievances and reports of corruption, reports of criminality, and all that. However, for the purposes of systematizing the reception of these complaints from the public, in the general headquarters, I have just give instructions to General Isleta to be the recipient of public complaints and walk-in complainants, just like the previous days when they were called the Office for Civil Relations, and he is dedicating a major division of his office for this purpose. So that the public can go in there and air out their complaints which will be received, documented, and passed to the proper agency which will initially be the inspector general service.

[Beltran] Are there links now between the military and local officials? We just had the elections and we have the mayors and the governors, etc. I think that a lot of people will be more comfortable going to their mayor, complaining about a policeman who would then be disciplined by General Montano.

[De Villa] Yes, Luis, we have just revived the Peace and Order Council at a national level. At this time, however, it is no longer the Defense Secretary who is the chairman but the Secretary of Local Governments. We hope to replicate this all the way down to the cities and municipalities. The executive order defines that this will be one of the jobs of this Peace and Order Council, so they can go to their mayors. The mayors can direct the police or send the complaint to the PC provincial commander or any military unit which is the object of complaint.
[passage omitted]

[Beltran] Right now we have Rodney Jaledo and Jessica Sojo. Would you like to ask questions?

[Sojo] I would like to ask Gen de Villa why is it that the perception right now is that the NPA can launch daring attacks on town halls and military detachments whereas the military can only conduct one hot pursuit operation

after the other, and then the casualties inflicted against the enemy usually is not very high compared to the casualty inflicted by the NPA?

[De Villa] Jessica, you actually raised several points here. But let me first answer the very first one. You see, we are fighting insurgents, we are fighting guerrillas. And by the nature of their activities, the guerrillas or the insurgents always have the choice of the time and place where they will strike. Secondly, they blend with the population, and they could be near us, we do not know them, they are faceless, and they have hidden guns, and therefore they can get very close to us who are in the open, in uniform, and not hiding, and therefore strike. That is one. Number two, in terms of tactics, guerrilla tactics are always like that. You determine a target, you pick the time and you mass your forces, strike quickly, and disappear fast. So when the government forces arrive, there is nothing there anymore. Now, why are all these things happening? These things are happening because this is part of guerrilla doctrine. They have to survive that way. They cannot face us frontally—they will get annihilated in no time at all. They have to strike and hide and strike and hide. Their favorite tactics are ambushes and raids. They cannot engage us in any other form of combat except that. Now, the last factor that I would like to stress here is that they can do this because the population is afraid to tell us that there is a guerrilla band there, there is an insurgent group here, there is a Sparrow man here in my neighborhood. The people are generally afraid because they are under the gun, and we can only give area protection but not really specific protection to specific persons because that would take maybe a 600,000-man Armed Forces instead of a 160,000-man Armed Forces to do it. So we have to live with this and cultivate our people to help us and be on our side, so that if there is a Sparrow team in your neighborhood we will know it, and the people of General Montano and General Biazon will just go there and pick them up. On the other hand, we also cannot take people on suspicion because we have to live and abide by the law and do our things in accordance with law. On their side, being in the underground and being rebels, they do not give a damn about law. These are the basic differences why we are generally at a disadvantage. But if all the people, the majority of the people would only be cooperative with us, then we can get to them as quickly as everybody would want us to.

[Beltran] Let me follow up that particular point brought up by Jessica with General Biazon. You are the commanding general of the NCRDC, do you foresee a time in the future when the NPA can launch conventional attacks? For example there have been reports of attacks on Muntinlupa townhall within the Metro Manila perimeter, do you ever see a time when they will mount a 200-man attack against a municipality in Metro Manila?

[Biazon] The possibilities are always there. But probabilities, I doubt it because the best suited tactics in guerrilla warfare in the urban setting is that of terroristic

acts. I like the word that you used a while ago about extortion related to the logging business. We have to know that in the urban setting only terrorist acts can fit in the environment and this includes assassinations or murder. I call it murder, and taxation or extortion. Criminal acts which can only be committed by criminal minds and therefore will operate in very small groups. To combat this, we will need police methods, police expertise, police organization, and even equipment. Therefore, in the NCRHC, Capcom is the core. However, we are now looking into the possibility of releasing more PC and INP to the crime-prone areas by relieving them of duties that can be performed by regular soldiers which may not need police authority and police methods.

[Beltran] So, given a hypothetical situation, an attack is launched on one of the peripheral suburban towns by a large group, perhaps for propaganda purposes, just to make a point, how quickly could the NCRDC react to cut them off, to go after them?

[Biazon] Depending on the distance from the heart of the city and depending on the time of day, whether you have the traffic jam or not. But we have provisions on air operations for this and we are evolving a campaign plan at the NCRDC designed to put the round peg on the round hole and the square peg on the square hole. Meaning, we are going to study a system by which we will be deploying the square peg, the regular forces, to prevent such a thing, or if they try to do that they are not going to get away with it.

[Beltran] General Villareal, you have heard the new strategy being employed. Would you like to comment on this?

[Villareal] It is very rare that commanders take time out to study problems and I am glad that General Biazon is dissecting it properly, and an important thing is he is flexible in that he is arranging his strategy or his tactics to the situation. More commanders should have that initiative.

We have been discussing here the situation in Manila. But then the overall situation is also different because that is a different problem to be addressed and perhaps I can cover that later on. [passage omitted]

[Beltran] One of the problems that has been brought up is the barracks mentality. The Armed Forces is said to have shifted from engaging the enemy in the field through the old battalion combat team which they used to have in the 50's to now fighting them out of barracks. The troops come from the barracks, mount an operation, and then go back to the barracks and stay there. Is this the reality or is there something else going on as far as field operations are concerned?

[Biazon] I think that is a wrong perception because our thrust is really to deploy more troops to the field. Now this back to the barracks term is just a term, that is it. In fact, some of us do not have barracks and we stay most of the time in the fields. This is our thrust now. When you talk of mass support, you must first ask why does the NPA have mass support?

[Beltran] Because they are there.

[Biazon] Yes, that is it. Because they are there, they have the guns and they hold or expand their mass support through fear. That is our thesis here, that this mass support is being [word indistinct] by fear. The only way we can get rid of fear is to establish our presence in these threatened barangays and that is what we are doing.

[Beltran] Is that now the thrust of the Armed Forces? You are going to put units in the field?

[Biazon] Yes, we put our troops there to protect the people and to remove this climate of fear. When we are successful, it comes out in the newspapers that we are militarizing the countryside. They immediately attack us and we know very well the time that we are succeeding if the attacks become more vicious, it means we are more successful. [passage omitted]

NPA Frees Korean Engineers; No Ransom Paid
HK080237 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 7 Feb 88

[Text] Two South Korean engineers who were freed by communist rebels after nearly 3 months of captivity are in good health and will return to Seoul today. The South Korean Embassy said Han Pok-su and Choe Song-kwon were freed on Saturday afternoon. The embassy said they were staying in an apartment leased by their employer, the Hanil Development Corporation, and that they did not require medical attention. The two will leave Manila today aboard Korean Airlines flight 622 for Seoul. Han and Choe were kidnapped on November 11 during a raid by communist rebels on the Hanil highway construction camp near Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte. South Korean Embassy Counsellor T.Y. Lee said no ransom was paid and the engineers were freed after appeals for humanitarianism.

In Seoul a company official said the firm had agreed to undertake various measures for community development in the region, but gave no further details. The rebels were reportedly demanding up to P2 million in ransom, as well as an end to military operations in the area.

Agrees To Stop Kidnappings
OW070837 Tokyo KYODO in English 0656 GMT 7 Feb 88

[Text] Manila, Feb. 7 KYODO—Communist guerrillas operating in northern Philippines said they would no longer kidnap South Korean nationals after releasing

unharmed two South Korean employees of a construction firm from their 88-day captivity, a ranking official of Hanil Development Co., said Sunday.

Meanwhile, South Korean Embassy official Tae Yon-yi said the two South Koreans would leave Manila for Seoul on Monday to join their families. The two met embassy officials for 30 minutes on Sunday morning.

Kang Mok-yi, vice president for overseas operation of the South Korean Hanil Co., said the New People's Army (NPA) in Bangui town in the northern Philippine province of Ilocos Norte responded positively to his appeal made during the handing over of engineer Choe Song-kwon and foreman Han Bok-su.

Choe, 31, and Han, 51, were handed over to Kang Mok-yi by three armed NPA members Saturday afternoon "in a street near the highway near Laoag," capital of Ilocos Norte, 400 kilometers north of Manila.

Choe and Han, together with seven Filipinos, were abducted last November 11 in a Hanil construction site in Bangui town in a move by the rebels to stop military operations in the area.

The rebels also demanded improved working conditions and higher wages for Filipinos working for Hanil which began road construction in Ilocos in 1983.

"When I met them there (in highway) yesterday, I told them that they should not kidnap furthermore...no more kidnapping. They agreed," a visibly elated Kang Mok-yi told three Filipino reporters working for international news agencies.

Seoul Daily Comments

SK070150 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
7 Feb 88 p 1

[By correspondent Kim Yong-chong]

[Text] Manila—Two South Korean engineers were freed unharmed Saturday, 89 days after they were kidnapped by Communist insurgents.

The two are Choe Song-kwon, 31, and Han Pok-su, 51, of the Hanil Development Co.

They were kidnapped on Nov. 10 last year while supervising local workers at a road construction site near Laoag, 270 miles north of Manila.

After being turned over the Hanil officials near Laoag in the northern Philippines by representatives of the Communist New People's Army (NPA), the two engineers were brought to Manila early this morning.

They are scheduled to take a flight back to Seoul tomorrow aboard KAL flight 622, according to Hanil's Manila branch.

Despite a long ordeal in the hands of the Communist rebels, the two engineers appeared to be in good health.

Cho Chung-sik, president of Hanil, said there have been negotiations with the representatives of the kidnappers both directly and through messengers.

He said his company promised to increase the employment of local people for road construction as well as improving the treatment of local workers.

He revealed that his firm had supplied food, medicine and other daily necessities to the rebels as they demanded them in the course of the negotiations.

He said the terms demanded by the captors were not difficult ones, explaining that they could be accepted out of humanitarian concern.

He said, "humanitarian appeal was effective in the release of the two in custody."

Cho flew here from Seoul Friday upon being notified that the release of the two Korean workers was imminent.

He said no ransom was paid to the New People's Army to obtain their release.

Meanwhile, it was reported in Manila dailies that the rebels were demanding a ransom of \$100,000.

They demanded the dismantling of all military camps and the cessation of military operations for the establishment of livelihood projects for local residents in return for the release of the two engineers.

It was the second time that South Korean engineers had been kidnapped by Communist rebels. In 1980, two other Hanil engineers were kidnapped and held for 52 days before being released in December.

The two Korean engineers were seized by about 10 armed guerrillas together with five other local workers near Laoag. The five Filipinos were freed earlier.

The rebel kidnappers sent letters to the company's field office in Laoag through messengers and forwarded the conditions for release.

There have been contacts between the Korean firm and the rebels. Hanil's managing director Yi Kang-mok had conducted negotiations with the guerrilla forces in close cooperation with the Korean Embassy in Manila to gain their release.

Upon receiving the news of the release, Son Kyong-hui, Choe's wife in Seoul, burst into tears, saying that it is unbelievable because it is too good to be true. "I feel as if I am dreaming," she said.

Son, who teaches at Tangsan Primary School in Seoul, said, "I was choked with pain and grief whenever my two children, aged five and three, asked when daddy is coming."

Hyon Yong-cha, 52, Han's wife, said "I never lost hope of seeing my husband again. I strongly believed that he would come back some day."

The two families were showered with congratulations from relatives and neighbors.

President Chon Tu-hwan sent cables to the two freed Hanil engineers, congratulating them on their release from the long captivity in the hands of rebel forces in the Philippines.

MNLF Says War 'Inevitable' in Muslim South
HK080753 Hong Kong AFP in English 0746 GMT
8 Feb 88

[Text] Manila, Feb 8 (AFP)—War is inevitable in the southern Philippines because President Corazon Aquino failed to use her now-expired decree powers to meet Moslem separatist demands, a statement from the insurgents said.

Habib Hashim, chief negotiator of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in peace talks with the Aquino government, issued the warning in a pamphlet sent from Islamabad and received by AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here Monday.

It came as Manila was trying to block MNLF efforts to gain membership in the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), which meets next month in Jordan.

"The MNLF, having done [as published] and shown its desire to achieve a peaceful settlement to the problem, have no other choice but to continue with the armed struggle," Mr Hashim said, adding: "The exercise of (this) final option is inevitable."

Mrs Aquino lost her "last chance" when she refused to decree Moslem autonomy before she relinquished law-making powers to the new Philippine Congress in July, he said.

The MNLF had by that time broken off talks with Manila on a peaceful settlement of the 15-year-old conflict in Mindanao and nearby islands. A ceasefire has been observed in the 15-year old conflict since September 1986.

More than 100,000 people were killed in separatist-related violence before fighting began to die down in the late 1970s with the decline of financial support from Arab countries hit by the oil crisis.

The MNLF wants to join the OIC to achieve the status of the Palestine Liberation Organization, entitling it to more aid from Islamic countries.

Mrs Aquino appealed to the OIC last week to reject the MNLF application and promised to speed up development and foster greater autonomy in the Moslem-populated areas.

A leader of a rival faction, the MNLF Reformists, said they have reunited with the mainstream MNLF and said Manila cannot possibly block MNLF's bid for full membership in the OIC.

"Its like trying to bring down the moon from the sky," Macapanton Abbas, MNLF-Reformist spokesman, said when asked if it was still possible for the Aquino government to block MNLF's bid for full membership in the OIC.

He told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here that the MNLF had acquired full observer status in the OIC because of the approval of the heads of different Moslem states in the 1974 Islamic Summit meeting.

"The recognition of the MNLF was done by the Islamic summit. So the Islamic foreign ministers cannot go against the Islamic summit."

Mr. Abbas said full OIC membership for the MNLF can only be rejected if the three separatist Moslem groups—the MNLF, the MNLF-Reformist and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front—failed to unite.

"Even if we have united in principle but we failed to operationalize it by agreeing on a common leader, that is the only time that its possible that it (full membership) will be suspended," he said.

The MNLF is headed by the exiled Nur Misuari. Two of his lieutenants split off in the late 1970's to form the two other factions, which have lowered their objective from separatism to autonomy.

Manglapus Says No PLO Office Request Received
HK060817 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English
5 Feb 88 p 8

[By Alito L. Malinao]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus said yesterday his Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] has not received any request from the Palestine Liberation Organization to be allowed to set up an information office in Manila.

Manglapus made this clarification after some quarters in the diplomatic community said the PLO can probably help thwart the bid of Nur Misuari, chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front, for full membership in the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC].

The Philippines has officially recognized the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people and supports its long-standing desire to have a homeland of their own.

Last Tuesday, the Philippines, through the DFA, deplored the Israeli action against the Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territories in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

The PLO is the only member of the 46-nation organization of Muslim countries without a fixed territory.

Manglapus refused to say whether the PLO can help in the government's efforts to counteract Misuari's moves at the OIC.

The OIC is holding its annual ministerial meeting in Amman, Jordan, on March 22 to 25.

The last meeting of the OIC was in Morocco in December 1985.

Dr. Azzam Daud, second secretary of the Jordanian Embassy in Tokyo, told the STANDARD yesterday that the OIC is inviting newsmen from the Philippines to cover the meeting.

Jordan does not have an embassy in Manila, but Daud comes every three months to attend to the needs of some 2,000 Jordanian students enrolled in various schools here.

Daud said that only Muslim reporters are allowed inside the OIC meeting, but Christian journalists can be accredited as observers.

Daud refused to divulge the sentiment of his government on the bid of Misuari to become a full OIC member. He said it is up to the conference to decide on Misuari's application.

New Pro-Aquino Alliance Formed in Senate
HK051525 Hong Kong AFP in English 1520 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] Manila Feb 5 (AFP)—Eight pro-government senators announced here Friday that they had formed a new alliance in the 23-member Senate in a move designed to curb the powers of Senate President Jovito Salonga, observers said.

But the senators denied aiming to oust Mr Salonga, who is emerging as a political rival to President Corazon Aquino, saying they formed the alliance, "to coordinate our work...and prevent wranglings on the floor."

The bloc, as yet nameless, is composed of senators who are members of either the PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan—Strength of the Nation] or the People Power (LB) parties, two of the four parties in the ruling coalition.

Senate sources said that five more senators would join the bloc, at least three of them known to be PDP-Laban or LB members.

Senators of the Liberal Party (LP), led by Mr Salonga, and of the UNIDO [United Nationalist Democratic Organization] party, led by Vice-President Salvador Laurel, were conspicuously absent as was Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, the only senator outside the ruling coalition.

Mr Salonga, whose LP fielded separate candidates against the ruling coalition slate in local elections last month, said he was "concerned but not disturbed" by the move to form a coalition within the ruling coalition.

Comelec Appointments Confirmation Postponed
HK080547 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] The Commission on Appointments today suspended the issuance of a decision confirming the appointments of Comelec Commissioner nominees Hay-dee Yorac and Andres Flores. Here is the full report from Jojo Ismael:

[Begin recording] In a meeting held today by the Commission on Appointments, Senator Juan Ponce Enrile asked the commission to postpone the confirmation of Yorac and Robles' appointments due to insufficient documentation supporting their nominations. Enrile's request has been accepted by the commission.

Meanwhile, the commission will hold another meeting tomorrow to deliberate on the nomination of former assemblyman Hilario Davide Jr as Comelec chairman.

The appointments of Leopoldo Africa and Dario Rama to the Comelec board are also expected to be considered.

Meanwhile, at a recent meeting, former commissioner Haydec Yorac said the persons expected to assume Comelec posts are only those capable of fighting and resisting the influence of the country's political groups, so as to ensure honesty.

Yorac is expected to be appointed to the Comelec again.
[end recording]

Church Group Denies Sin's Allegations
HK060519 Baguio City Mountain Province
Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 6 Feb 88

[Text] Sister Mariani Dimaran, head of the Task Force Detainees of the Philippines, reacted strongly to Cardinal Jaime Sin's insinuations that their organization is communist-infiltrated.

Speaking before the Foreign Correspondents Association the other day, Sin reacted to reports that the human rights situation was deteriorating by saying that the people making accusations must be influenced by the communists.

Sister Mariani said at a news conference that the cardinal may be part of an international conspiracy to create a red scare or [word indistinct] of organizations perceived as left-leaning such as their group. Cardinal Sin had said that some elements in the church seemed to be misguided. And Sister Mariani replied by saying that the church is ignoring allegedly the alarming rise in human rights violations.

Thailand

Chawalit Says Over 200 Lao Troops Killed
BK060111 Bangkok THE NATION in English
6 Feb 88 pp 1, 2

[Text] Thai jet bombers and artillery yesterday continued to pound Laotian troops in a disputed area, as soldiers from both sides confronted each other from a distance of only 100 to 200 metres, sources said.

Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, army commander in chief, said F-5E jets of the Thai air force continued air strikes on Laotian positions on Hill 1428, known as "Sticky Rice Hill", near Phitsanulok.

Laotian batteries were targets of the Thai air strikes, military sources said.

Chawalit said more than 200 Laotian troops have been killed and 300-400 wounded, while a number of Laotian tanks and artillery pieces were destroyed in the fighting.

He declined to give Thai casualties but said Laos has suffered three to four times more than Thai forces.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said Thursday in Malaysia that about 100 Thais have been killed in the fighting so far.

Chawalit yesterday visited headquarters of the Third Army Region and Na Charoen Village in the disputed border area near Chat Trakan District of the northern province.

ACM [air chief marshal], Woranat Aphichari, the air force commander in chief, said Thai F-5E planes flew ten sorties yesterday, but faced no retaliation from Laotian anti-aircraft guns.

Woranat expected heavy casualties on the Laotian side.

The official Lao news agency said Thai forces were pounding their positions with up to 20 air strikes and 2,000 heavy artillery shells per day.

Thai and Laotian gunners yesterday exchanged day-long fire. Casualties on either side were unknown.

Meanwhile, helicopters will be sent out to recover the wreckage of the US-built Thai F-5E jet shot down Thursday by Laos using a Soviet-made SAM-9 missile, sources said.

Laotian gunners fired more than 10 heat-seeking missiles at the plane, said the army chief.

The ill-fated aircraft, one of four jets on an attack mission, went down near Na Charoen Village in Na Hao District of Loei, about 15 kilometres from the embattled border.

The crash site is about four kilometres northwest of Romklao Village, claimed by the two countries.

Chawalit said the Laotians were using radar to guide artillery fire and were firing salvos of Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles such as SAM-4, sam-7 and SAM-9 at Thai planes.

Maj Gen Soem Chaiyabut, deputy commander of the Third Army Region, said about 800-1,000 artillery shells landed in Thai territory each day.

He said Thai troops have recaptured about 80 per cent of the disputed area, and are advancing to capture the last remaining fortified Laotian bastion on top of the strategic hill.

Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, Thai armed forces chief of staff, told reporters about 60-70 Laotian troops are entrenched on the hill, described by Thai military officers as a "killing field" on Phu Soi Dao mountain range.

He said Laotian troops have a distinct advantage with their higher position, which can be reached easier from the Laotian side of the border.

Sunthon said Vientiane dispatched more troops to the Laotian border, but they have not yet entered Thai territory.

Chawalit, meanwhile, said six to seven Lao battalions are deployed along the border to provide support at the battle scene.

"If we opened up more fronts that would cause problems for Laos, but we will not take that step," he said. "We want to contain the conflict."

Laos and Thailand have been fighting over a 70-square-kilometre strip of jungled hills about 434 km north of Bangkok for about three months.

Senior Thai government officials have hinted that Vietnam, which maintains about 40,000 troops in Laos, is involved in the battle.

Military sources in the northeastern Loei Province, bordering Phitsanulok, also reported movements of the pro-Soviet Thai communist insurgents in the area.

They said defence volunteers were guarding bridges and strategic roads leading to the disputed area to avoid possible sabotage.

Local officials in Loei yesterday arrested three Thais and charged them with helping Laotian troops. One of them was caught while allegedly smuggling medicine across the Mekong River from Tha Li District into Laos. The others were arrested while distributing Laotian leaflets.

Bangkok Governor Chamlong Simuang and Pol Gen Phao Sarasin, police chief, yesterday visited the disputed area.

Bombing of Lao Posts Continues

BK08109 Bangkok THE NATION in English
8 Feb 88 pp 1, 2

[Text] Phitsanulok—Thai forces are preparing special units for a final push to take over the strategic hill being held by Laotian intruders as Thai artillery and airplanes yesterday continued bombing their positions in the area.

Military sources said Thai forces are readjusting tactics for a major drive against Laotian troops well-entrenched on Hill 1428 near Ban Romklao of Chat Trakan District.

Senior army officers met in this northern province, about 500 kilometres from Bangkok, to plan new tactics against Laotian troops.

But other top army officers, including Commander in Chief Chawalit Yongchaiyut, have not ruled out the possibility of cross-border operations.

Lt Gen Siri Thiwaphan, commander of the Third Army Region, presided over the day-long meeting, said the sources.

Five US-built F-5E jet fighter-bombers of the Royal Thai Air Force yesterday flew several sorties as Thai and Laotian gunners exchanged artillery fire in the embattled border area, they said.

The sources said Thai and Laotian ground troops, just 300-400 metres apart, confronted each other on the rugged, remote hill on Phu Soi Dao mountain range.

Siri told reporters that Thai forces captured 10 more Laotian troops and killed a Laotian battalion commander in the fighting recently.

However, he declined to identify the dead Laotian officer.

He said the Laotians put up stiff resistance from their higher positions against advancing Thai troops and army-trained volunteers.

The sources said the Thai air bombardment failed to flush out about 60-70 Laotian troops inside deep tunnels in three remaining target areas.

Thai troops have recaptured several jungle-clad hills in the 70-kilometre strip of forested areas, from the Laotians.

The sources said the Thai army is preparing two companies of specially trained soldiers for the final stage of the battle. "These units are being prepared for a final ground assault to take the lost area," said one of the sources.

Terrain in the disputed area has proved to be difficult for regular troops.

The border battle escalated sharply last week when a Thai F-5E plane was shot down by Laotians using Soviet-built SAM-9 (surface-to-air) missiles.

The sources said Laotian gunners yesterday fired about 200 rounds of artillery into the northeastern province of Loei, bordering Phitsanulok.

However, Siri played down speculation that Laos might be trying to expand the border dispute, saying that the shelling was aimed at intimidating Thai troops.

Siri charged Laos with conscripting women and children to deliver food and military supplies to its soldiers in the disputed area.

Radio Vietnam yesterday claimed that Thai air raids against Laos have killed a number of civilians, including women and children.

Gen Chawalit said Friday that more than 200 Laotian troops have been killed and 300-400 wounded.

Defense Minister Visits Border
BK080746 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 8 Feb 88

[Text] Defense Minister Air Chief Marshal Phaniang Kantarat told correspondents at about noon today that the prime minister had assigned him this morning to inspect the situation at Ban Romklao.

[Begin recording] [Phaniang] I am here to inspect the progress made since my last meeting with the prime minister.

[Unidentified correspondent] What progress have you noticed?

[Phaniang] I feel that there is continued, gradual progress, because we seek to carry out operations with a minimum of casualties. It is unlikely that we can complete the task as quickly as had been hoped, because to do so would result in high casualties. We must proceed slowly.

[Second unidentified correspondent] How is the morale of the soldiers in the field?

[Phaniang] Very good.

[Third unidentified correspondent] Has the prime minister given you any instructions for this visit?

[Phaniang] He asked me convey his concern for the soldiers because he could not come himself.

[Third correspondent] Is there going to be a change in our tactics?

[Phaniang] I think some changes may be called for because the enemy has reinforced its troops. This would normally require a change in our operations.

[Second correspondent] The Lao side has circulated leaflets attacking the Thai people. Can you comment?

[Phaniang] They have slandered us continuously. Lao students and people have slandered us, but what they have said is incorrect. The truth is otherwise. We know for certain that the territory is ours—100%; there is no doubt about that. Their statements are a distortion of the facts.

[Third correspondent] Will our air operations continue?

[Phaniang] They will continue as long as the army wants air support. Air operations are used because some targets cannot be hit by ground units. [end recording]

Socialist Envoys Briefed on Border Dispute
BK051249 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
1200 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Foreign Ministry spokesman Sarot Chawanawirat has disclosed that yesterday he invited the ambassadors of seven socialist countries—the Soviet Union, Vietnam, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, the CSSR, and Poland—to a briefing on the situation in Ban Romklao. The envoys were also given the opportunity to see evidence consisting of maps and treaties pertaining to the Thai-Lao border. This is part of a diplomatic effort directed by the foreign minister, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila. Envoys from 34 countries were recently shown the same evidence.

The spokesman said this permitted the Soviet ambassador to hear facts from the Thai as well as the Lao side. It also established a good rapport between Thailand and the Soviet Union prior to the Thai prime minister's visit to the Soviet Union in a few months. The Soviet ambassador was briefed on developments between Thailand and Laos. Sarot pointed out that if Laos wanted Thailand's friendship, Laos should not have begun its current policy, which differs from that of other countries. In August 1987 Laos sent troops into an area it felt it owned. Laos did not inform Thailand in advance, and only claimed the territory afterward. Had the standard practice in such a situation been followed, Laos would have informed Thailand of the claim in advance.

Sarot said the Soviet ambassador was shown evidence in the form of maps and the 1907 treaty on the Thai-Lao border. The ambassador scrutinized the maps and declared that the Soviet position is to see the dispute solved by peaceful means. He asked whether Thailand intends to negotiate with Laos. He was told that Thailand will not enter negotiations until Lao soldiers are withdrawn from Thai territory and that Thailand will continue to drive out the Lao troops. In any event, should the Lao foreign minister come to Thailand, Thailand will talk with him for the sake of future serious negotiations. The Soviet ambassador was informed that the Thai Government does not want the Soviet Union to take any action in the current Thai-Lao dispute. Thailand merely invited the Soviet ambassador to the briefing to acquaint him with the facts.

Sarot said the other socialist countries' ambassadors were also briefed on the facts of the dispute and shown the maps and treaty as evidence. They were told that Thailand would take them to Ban Romklao to view the site of the dispute if they so desire.

A spokesman for the Lao Foreign Ministry has rebutted the treaty and maps claiming that Phu Khao Miang and Phu Soi Dao are identical. Sarot described the spokesman's rebuttal as inaccurate because the treaty states clearly that the origin of the Huang River is on Phu Khao Miang.

Paper Urges Soviets To 'Pressure' Laos
BK051011 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
5 Feb 88 p 8

[Editorial: "The Soviet Attitude"]

[Text] The Thai Foreign Ministry recently invited envoys of free world countries to visit Ban Romklao in Chat Trakan District of Phitsanulok. The ministry now plans to invite envoys of socialist and communist countries in Thailand to observe the facts there. In the same way, the Soviet Foreign Ministry has invited the Thai ambassador to Moscow to hear the official Soviet Government appeal.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, the Soviet Government spokesman, said the Soviet Government formally appeals to Thailand to negotiate with Laos to resolve the Thai-Lao border dispute. He said: "Expanded military operations not only worsen Thai-Lao relations, but they worsen the overall situation in Southeast Asia as well. We deplore the border dispute at a time when the prospect of settling regional problems by peaceful means has emerged."

The Soviet Government's concern over the intensification of the border dispute is very appropriate and timely, particularly its appeal to the Thai Government to solve the dispute by political means. The peace-loving and patriotic Thai people wish to call on the Soviet Government to deliver this appeal to the Vietnamese and Lao Governments as well. Both those governments maintain a special relationship with it, and this will allow them to correct their misunderstanding so that peace will replace the current armed dispute.

From the start of the dispute with Laos over Ban Romklao, the Thai Government has steadfastly sought a political settlement of the problem. Not only did it show the public evidence in the form of current and past treaties, it also tried to show the actual situation, without any distortion, to diplomats who were neutral and sought the facts.

The Soviet Government's attitude toward the Thai ambassador demonstrates its desire for peace in this region. But this desire is meaningless unless it is translated into action, particularly pressure and strong appeals to its Vietnamese and Lao allies.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union, as the big brother of the socialist and communist camp, must accept the Thai Foreign Ministry's invitation to observe the facts at Ban Romklao. After all, it is by doing this that the facts appearing on the Soviet map will be given increased credibility. And only an appeal based on sincerity and action can bring peace.

Prem Receives Vietnamese Refugees' Donation
BK070128 Bangkok THE NATION in English
7 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon yesterday received a donation from Vietnamese refugees settled in Sakon Nakhon to set up a fund for soldiers wounded in the battle at Ban Romklao.

The 40,000-baht donation was given to the premier during his visit to the northeastern province. The provincial chamber of commerce also donated 120,000 baht to the fund.

Prem praised the Vietnamese refugees, who have lived in Thailand since Vietnam's colonial war against France, for their unity with the Thai people and also their cooperation with the government in fighting against the external threat.

Several Thai authorities have openly charged that Vietnamese troops in Laos have helped Laotian soldiers in the border fighting. They have shelled Thai positions around Ban Romklao near Phitsanulok with heavy artillery and attacked Thai warplanes with surface-to-air missiles, the authorities said.

Earlier in the day, the premier presided over the opening of a tomato juice factory in Seka district of nearby Nong Khai Province.

UNHCR Protests Actions Against Boat People
BK040139 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
4 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] Trat—Officials intercepted 70 Vietnamese refugees about to land in two boats late Tuesday night while plans to push back almost 200 others were thwarted yesterday because of a lack of boats, police sources said.

A small boat carrying five Vietnamese led by two men—Tang Somnuk and Mun I-chok—was intercepted at about 10 p.m. in Tambon Mai Rut of Khlong Yai District.

An hour later, police arrested Daeng Ti as he was trying to bring in another boatload of 65 Vietnamese in the same area.

Police said Tang and Daeng hold dual Thai-Khmer citizenship. The 70 Vietnamese are being interrogated before being taken to court for illegal entry.

They will be sent back after the court verdict, police said.

Plans to push back another 187 Vietnamese were stalled yesterday as officials failed to find enough boats to tow them out to sea.

On Tuesday, officials pushed back about 300 Vietnamese.

Officials said they feared that despite being towed out to sea, the boat people may try to sneak into the country in smaller groups through other parts of the coastline.

Provincial Governor Thongdam Bachun said yesterday, however, that officials are checking to see if any of those pushed back have arrived at their coastal areas. If found, they would be pushed back again, the governor added.

Meanwhile, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) yesterday protested the actions against the boat people.

"The UNHCR expresses concern over these measures that violate internationally accepted standards of treatment of refugees and asylum seekers," it said.

Deputy commander of Provincial Police Zone 2 Col Seri Temiyawet, who is leading a special task force assigned to investigate Vietnamese refugee smuggling rackets in the province, said evidence showed that Vietnam is allowing the boat people to leave systematically.

He said on almost all boats arriving on the coast, there is at least one person who has a reasonable command of English.

Prime Minister Receives NPC Delegation
BK060859 Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO
in Chinese 5 Feb 88 p 16

[Text] A delegation of the Chinese National People's Congress [NPC] paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon at Government House at 0915 on 4 February. The delegation was led by Chen Pixian, vice chairman of the NPC Standing Committee.

Chen Pixian conveyed the Chinese leaders' regards to Prime Minister Prem. Chen Pixian also reiterated that Chinese-Thai friendly relations have a long history and that cooperation between the two nations has progressed significantly. He expressed hope that the relationship and cooperation between the two countries will grow stronger.

Chen Pixian said that Thailand's economy is flourishing and that its national income is satisfactory.

Prime Minister Prem praised China for its progress in various fields. He also thanked the Chinese Government for its cooperation with Thailand on many issues, such as Cambodia.

Fishing Dispute Panel Formed With Malaysia
BK050259 Bangkok THE NATION in English
5 Feb 88 pp 1, 2

[Text] Thailand and Malaysia have set up a new subcommittee to handle fishing disputes between the countries, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said last night.

Sitthi said that both countries agreed to be lenient with one another to preserve mutual interests. Sitthi described his two-day talks with his Malaysian counterpart, Abu Hassan Omar, as "highly successful" to pave the way for the upcoming visit of Malaysian Premier Mahathir Mohamed during Feb 22-25 in Chiang Mai.

Sitthi said that both sides also agreed to intensify cross-border cooperation to clamp down on smuggling operations along the Thai-Malaysian border.

The first meeting of Thai-Malaysian Joint Commission in Kuala Lumpur was aimed at exchanging views on problems that exist along the border.

Sitthi said Thailand will support Malaysia's effort to fight the protectionist move on primary products and vice versa. Malaysia will support Thailand's position on agriculture. Thailand has urged that Western countries end subsidies for agricultural produce.

Concerning the promotion of tourism, both sides agreed to consider a new route between the famous resort islands of Phuket and Langkawi.

Trial Date Set for Suspects in September Coup
BK060143 Bangkok THE NATION in English
6 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] The Criminal Court yesterday accepted sedition and criminal charges against five September 9 coup suspects who surrendered late last year.

The defendants, who denied all the charges, were later released on bail with a bond of 500,000 baht each.

The five—Capt Nakkarin Nak-athit, 1st Lt Rangsan Sanguansat, Flying Officer Ekkachai Intharaphanit, Maj Thongsuk Tengsiri and Warrant Officer First Class Prawat Phaetrat—face several charges ranging from murder, sedition and abduction to destroying government property.

The court set the first hearing on Mar 1.

The five officers gave themselves up to Interior Minister Prachuap Suntharangkun on Dec 4 after 26 months in hiding.

Five people, including two foreign correspondents, were killed in fighting during the coup on September 9, 1985, which was halted about eight hours later.

Forty military officers and civilians were arrested in connection with the coup attempt, but 33 of them were later released when the government decided to drop all charges against them in November.

The other seven suspects are on trial on sedition charges, including former Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan, former Supreme commander Soem Na Nakhon, former

Assistant Supreme Commander ACM [air chief marshal] Krasae Intharat, former Deputy Army Chief Yot Thephasadin, former Supreme Commander ACM Arun Phomthem and two labour leaders.

Trade Office Reports 1987 Exports, Imports
BK040149 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
4 Feb 88 p 13

[Text] Thailand's exports grew 26 percent last year to 293,000 million baht but higher imports resulted in a trade deficit of 41,000 million baht, the Business Economics Department said yesterday.

It said international trade grew because of economic expansion in terms of production and investment.

But this too gave impetus to heavier imports, especially of vehicles and transport equipment (mainly trucks, buses and auto parts), raw materials and semi-finished products. The import total for last year was 334,000 million baht.

It said industries which produce goods for export, last year imported products to expand production capacity.

The increase in imports was 38 percent over the level in 1986, while exports rose 59.822 million baht or 26 percent.

Export items which registered high increases included garments, up 73 percent; gems and jewelry, 44 percent; para rubber, 18 percent; footwear, 72 percent.

Other exports which also rose in both value and volume were frozen chicken, frozen shrimp, frozen cuttle fish, canned marine products, sugar, integrated circuits, toys, travelling packs made of cloth, leather and plastic.

The department said some export items which declined in terms of volume included maize, tobacco leaf, raw coffee and tin.

Export of industrial products rose 37 percent while agricultural produce and marine products increased only 3 percent.

Export of mineral ores and fuel fell 4 percent.

It said that although the global economy was slowing down, the Thai economy would expand because of the appreciation in currencies like the yen, mark and Taiwanese dollar, as well as lower production costs.

While the capability of exporters to improve product quality and design has contributed to increased trade, cooperation from the Government has also helped greatly, the department said.

Vietnam

VNA Reports Ministry Comments on Cambodia
BK041553 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT
4 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 4—A regular press conference was held here this afternoon by Trinh Xuan Lang, head of the Press and Information Department and spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of Vietnam.

Asked about Vietnam's attitude towards the recent developments in Kampuchean situation, Trinh Xuan Lang said:

"The declaration by Prince Sihanouk to resign definitively from his position as president of the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea together with all the reasons he adduced has proved what Vietnam said long ago, namely the 'coalition government' is only a forced team-up full of contradictions set up by a number of persons to cover up the true face of the genocidal Pol Pot clique and prevent the revival of the Kampuchean people. This 'despicable monster,' as made it clear by Prince Sihanouk [as received], cannot represent the interests of the country or the nation of Kampuchea but can only represent the interests of the forces which have set it up."

"We are of the view that by resigning from his position as president of the 'Democratic Kampuchean Coalition Government,' Prince Sihanouk has more favourable conditions to contribute to the search for an equitable and appropriate solution to the Kampuchea issue. Vietnam fully supports the meetings between Prince Sihanouk and Chairman Hun Sen aimed at solving the internal affairs of Kampuchea."

On the Sino-Vietnamese relations, Trinh Xuan Lang said:

"On the occasion of the Lunar New Year festival of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples, Vietnam has expressed its goodwill by proposing a cease-fire so that the people on both sides of the border may exchange new year visits. Whether this goodwill could be materialized depends on the Chinese authorities' response."

He went on:

"Vietnam has for many years now demonstrated its readiness to hold talks with China to settle the outstanding questions in order to normalize the relations between the two countries and restore the long-standing friendship between the two nations. This has been reiterated on many occasions by the Vietnamese leadership. The Vietnamese press has also refrained from making any criticism of China. It is regrettable, however, that China has given no constructive response. Of late, China made false accusation about Vietnam's shelling Chinese territory and the Chinese press made repeated attacks on

Vietnam, thus straining the relations between the two countries. That is in no way conducive to better relations in the interests of the two peoples and obviously runs contrary to the current trend toward dialogue and settlement of disputes through peaceful negotiations."

Asked to comment on the statements made by U.S. Assistant Secretary State Gaston Sigur during his recent trip to Southeast Asia, Trinh Xuan Lang said:

"The U.S. assistant secretary made negative statements which are incompatible not only with realities but also with the current evolution of the relations between the two countries. He repeated the demand that Vietnam withdraw its troops from Kampuchea before the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and the United States and called for the continued economic embargo against Vietnam, etc..."

"We hold that the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and the United States should be effected on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefits in the legitimate interests of the two peoples. To impose preconditions for the establishment of relations is unacceptable."

Hanoi Notes Sihanouk Message to Pham Van Dong
BK051132 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] As reported earlier, on 6 January 1988 Mr Pham Van Dong asked Chairman Hun Sen to convey his message of thanks to Prince Sihanouk. On 3 February 1988, Mr Pham Van Dong received a message of thanks from Prince Sihanouk. Following is the full text of the message:

Your Excellency and dear friend:

I am very moved at the nice letter you sent me on 6 January 1988. Through His Excellency Mr Hun Sen I am glad to assure you of the faithfulness of the friendly sentiments which my wife and I have always reserved for you and our other Vietnamese friends over the past many years.

As you know, through the frank but hard talks with Phnom Penh, I am striving to seek an equitable solution to the Kampuchea issue. With the understanding of your government and of your comrades, those who cannot ignore my constant concern for the restoration of the friendly relations between our two neighboring countries, this solution may be drawing near.

Princess Monique sends you her best wishes.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of our highest and most affectionate consideration. [Date] Beijing, 3 February 1988 [Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

VNA Cites VOA Report on Cease-Fire Proposal
BK070310 Hanoi VNA in English 1531 GMT
6 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 6—The Voice of America [VOA] on February 6 quoted a spokesman of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry as saying that Vietnam had proposed a one-day cease-fire on February 17 with China so as to let people living on both sides of the common border exchange visits during the Lunar New Year festival. That report by VOA is true. On February 4, when asked by a KYODO correspondent at a regular press conference in Hanoi, a spokesman of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry said: "On the occasion of the Lunar New Year festival of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples, Vietnam has expressed its goodwill by proposing a cease-fire so that the people on both sides of the border may exchange New Year visits. Whether this goodwill could be materialized depends on the Chinese authorities' response."

Party Paper Comments on U.S. Contra Vote
BK060729 Hanoi VNA in English 0709 GMT
6 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 6—The U.S. Congress's rejection of the emergency aid of 36 million dollars to the contras is another lesson for the Reagan administration, says NHAN DAN today.

The paper continues :

"The road to a firm peace in Central America is still strewn with obstacles. Some positive factors have emerged. The U.S. Congress' refusal to continue aiding the contras may be considered an act consonant with reason.

"The constant growth of the Sandinista revolution and the Nicaraguan Government's flexible attitude and sense of realism following the conclusion of the Guatemala peace treaty have weakened the contra counter-revolutionaries and reduced them to mere bandits operating outside Nicaraguan territory and kept alive by U.S. aid".

"By stubbornly nurturing those mercenaries to subvert the Nicaraguan Government, the Reagan administration is only pursuing a doomed plan in contravention of the desire of the American people themselves", NHAN DAN points out.

"What is needed now is for Washington to revise completely its policy toward Nicaragua and to make a complete break with an unpopular course of action that could only bring it ever greater harm", the paper concluded.

Views on U.S. Chemical Weapons

*BK070851 Hanoi VNA in English 0713 GMT
7 Feb 88*

[Text] Hanoi, VNA February 7—The leading paper NHAN DAN in a commentary today describes President Reagan's recent approval of the Defense Department's plan to produce binary chemical weapons as a dangerous move in the United States' arms race. The paper recalls that in an attempt to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union, the Reagan administration has over the past 5 years produced 5 million units of chemical weapons and stocked over 150,000 tonnes of toxic chemicals in Western Europe, particularly West Germany, and other parts of the world. On the contrary, the paper points out, the Soviet Union and other socialist and peace-loving forces throughout the world have worked to the best for an international agreement on totally banning and abolishing chemical weapons, regarding it as a very important target in the struggle for disarmament.

In order to create favorable conditions for such a treaty, the Soviet Union, persisting in its policy of negotiation, has unilaterally declared its stop of production of chemical weapons, the paper notes. It also notes that the U.S. President's decision to produce binary chemical weapons was made at a time when an international conference on disarmament, including nuclear and chemical weapons, is being held in Geneva. This means that Washington retains its war-like policy by producing and deploying mass extermination weapons, binary chemical weapons included. It is Washington that has sought ways to delay any positive results of the Geneva talks on the ban of chemical weapons. Obviously Reagan has turned his back to reality and run counter to the genuine aspirations of the world people, including the Americans.

Quoting Reagan as saying last month that he wanted a world of peace the paper noted that his recent decision to produce binary chemical weapons has proved himself a liar. The U.S. lack of goodwill and responsibility in the negotiation for an international treaty on elimination of chemical weapons is a great challenge to the world opinion, the paper remarks.

Comments on U.S.-Israeli Relations

*BK050839 Hanoi VNA in English 0712 GMT
5 Feb 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 5—The U.S.-Israeli collusion is the main obstacle on the road to a stable peace in the Middle East, NHAN DAN says in a commentary today.

Commenting on the United States' veto against the U.N. Security Council's draft resolution on the situation in the Middle East, the paper says that with this act, "Washington has once again shown its intention to continue shielding Tel Aviv's campaign of repression and terror against the Palestinian people and to increase its support for Israel's policy of aggression against peoples".

The paper goes on: "Washington's act has also proved that it is deliberately undercutting the efforts of many countries toward the early convening of an international conference aimed at radically solving the Middle East issue".

"The U.S. Administration's pious professions that it is trying to help bring about a peaceful solution to the Middle East issue are just a repetition of old lies", NHAN DAN concludes.

Assesses FRG Communist Party Ban

*BK050833 Hanoi VNA in English 0700 GMT
5 Feb 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 5—That the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany continues to ban the German Communist Party (D.K.P.) is an outdated policy inconsistent with the changing international situation, says NHAN DAN in an article today.

The paper continues:

"This is an extremely unjust policy towards the German Communist Party, an important political force which has constantly made active contributions to the common struggle of the F.R.G. people for peace and democracy, and has good rising prestige in the country as well as in the world."

"The Bonn authorities should meet the demand of the F.R.G. Communists and people for an immediate cancellation of the ban on the German Communist Party. This is correct, fair, and reasonable measure", the paper stresses.

Council of State Holds Regular Session

*BK070550 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 7 Feb 88*

[Text] The Council of State on 5-6 February held its regular session under the chairmanship of Vo Chi Cong:

1. The Council of State ratified the treaty of friendship and cooperation and the consular agreement signed by Vietnam and Afghanistan on 28 December 1987 in Hanoi. The Council of State warmly welcomed the signing of these two important documents, marking a new step in the consolidation and strengthening of the friendship and cooperation between the two nations and peoples.
2. The Council of State reviewed its work since its election by the National Assembly in June 1987 and decided on its programs for inspection work and supplementing legislation in 1988.
3. The Council of State heard a report on the results of a state delegation's mission, led by its vice chairman Nguyen Thi Dinh, to inspect the enforcement of the laws on arrests, detention, and reeducation through labor and

forced labor in Hanoi. The Council of State expressed its identity of views on the delegation's judgment and appraisal that the municipality has made great efforts in guiding the mass movement toward maintaining social security and order, in opposing and preventing crimes, and in educating and managing criminals. However, there are shortcomings in the enforcement of the laws on arrests, detention, education, and management of offenders. The Council of State requested the People's Council and Committee, as well as other organizations concerned in Hanoi, to take positive measures to carry out the conclusions reached by the delegation.

Grants Amnesty to Prisoners

*BK061459 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 6 Feb 88*

[Text] On the occasion of the year of dragon Tet, implementing the policy of humanitarianism and leniency of the party and the state, the Council of Ministers has decided to free and reduce the sentence of repentant convicts who have made progress in the process of reeducation. These include many officers and puppet administrative personnel of the former regime.

Polithuro Resolution on Anniversaries

*BK051314 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 5 Feb 88*

[Text] On 28 January the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee issued a resolution on organizing the commemoration of major historic anniversaries in 1990. The resolution pointed out:

The year 1990 is the year of many major historic anniversaries:

—The 60th anniversary of the Indochinese Communist Party, 3 February 1930;

—The 100th anniversary of President Ho Chi Minh's birthday, 19 May 1890. Especially, on this occasion, in accordance with a UNESCO decision, all countries in the world will organize the commemoration of the centennial of world cultural celebrity Ho Chi Minh;

—The 45th National Day of the SRV, 2 September 1945;

—The 15th anniversary of the total victory of the anti-U.S. war of resistance for national salvation, 30 April 1975; and

—The 120th anniversary of Lenin's birthday, 22 April 1870.

These events are a great source of education and inspiration for our entire party, people, and Army. The Political Bureau hereby decides:

1. To solemnly, publicly, and widely organize the commemoration of these historic anniversaries in 1990 and for the purposes of:

a. Summing up the process of the party's and President Ho Chi Minh's diversified revolutionary activities and thereby drawing major lessons of experience about the

Vietnamese revolution, the national democratic revolution, and the socialist revolution; about party building and the building of the revolutionary administration, the front, and the various mass organizations; and about the discharge of international duty. Through this, we should heighten our political and theoretical levels, leadership capacity, and management skills; promote the ideal of, and will for, fighting in the service of the fatherland and the people; enhance our pride, self-respect, and self-confidence; and foster unity and singlemindedness to overcome all immediate difficulties and trials to carry out successfully the objectives and tasks set forth in the resolution of the sixth party congress.

b. Learning from, and emulating, the shining examples of President Ho Chi Minh's revolutionary qualities, virtues, and thoughts; exerting ourselves, living, fighting, working, and studying in accordance with the examples set by great Uncle Ho and with his teachings to various localities, sectors, and units; and stepping up the campaign to purify the party organizations and state apparatus, enhance their militant strength, and make social relations healthy.

c. Launching a broad mass emulation movement in all fields of activities to enable all people to volunteer in emulation activities so as to record the highest possible achievements in greeting the major anniversaries, and strongly push forward comprehensive renovation, with our efforts focused mainly on renovating the economic structure and management mechanism, releasing productive forces, bringing into full play all potentials of the country, practicing absolute economization, and successfully implementing the 1986-90 5-year plan.

2. The common themes of propaganda for all the major anniversaries in 1990 are:

a. Holding fast to Marxism-Leninism, studying the experience of fraternal parties, reviewing the experience of the Vietnamese revolution, carrying on and developing the revolutionary and scientific character of our party and Uncle Ho; renovating our way of thinking, our organizations and cadres, and our work style.

b. Fully understanding the concept of considering the people as the base, establishing and developing the laboring people's right of mastery, and giving more room to democracy.

c. Promoting the patriotism of our party and people and combining it with proletarian internationalism in conformity with the new revolutionary stage, taking advantage of favorable international conditions, developing the strength of our nation and the era, vigorously accelerating socialist construction and national defense, and fulfilling our international duty.

d. Carrying out propaganda work so as to help the people gain a knowledge of the party, accelerating party-building activities so as to help our party fulfill its leading role

in the socialist revolution, and making party organizations and cadres and party members clearly understand the concrete requirements and duties they have to fulfill in the conditions of the party ruling the administration. In this way, our party will prove itself worthy of being a leader and also a very faithful servant of the people in the new revolutionary stage.

e. Promoting a revolutionary lifestyle; having our entire people translate the motto of living, combating, working, and studying in accordance with great Uncle Ho's examples into reality; and using members of the party, the youth union, and the armed forces as key elements in accelerating the drive to purify the party organizations and state mechanism and improve their militant strength and to ameliorate social relations.

3. External propaganda work:

a. Through these anniversaries, we should strongly step up propaganda work to communicate the achievements and successes of the Vietnamese revolution, especially the experience of our party and people in revolutionary struggle; the situation and tasks of our revolution; and Vietnam's current domestic and foreign policies in order to win even broader approval and support from fraternal and friendly countries for our people's cause of national construction and defense.

b. We should strengthen the special solidarity and friendship among Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia; express our party's and people's gratitude for the great and effective assistance of the Soviet Union and the various fraternal socialist countries, and for the sympathy and support of our friends throughout the world in our wars against aggression in the past and in our construction and defense of the socialist Vietnamese fatherland at present.

c. We should demonstrate our people's sympathy with and support for the struggle of various nations for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress.

4. Major preparations to be made.

a. In 1988, all sectors and localities should urgently formulate programs and plans, and begin activities in support of the campaign to commemorate the major anniversaries.

b. Organize the study of Marxist-Leninist theory, focusing on the major themes to support the formulation of economic principles and strategy; open scientific conferences to review and bring into play the major lessons of experience, the valuable revolutionary traditions of our party, uncle, and people, and the theoretical issues derived from a general review of all aspects of our party's practical activities; and provide timely information on the good experiences of all parties in fraternal socialist countries.

c. Prepare and publish some theoretical and political books on Vietnam's revolutionary struggle through its various stages; complete the history of the CPV and Vietnam's history; launch a movement of creation in culture, arts, film, and theatre to have great works of high quality concerning Uncle Ho, the revolutionary struggle history of our party and people, and the 45 years of building and defending the new regime.

d. Prepare the exhibition of 45 years' achievements in building socialism, defending the country, and fulfilling international obligations; conduct supplementary research to enhance the quality of museums and conservatories; and start the construction of the first stage of the museum of Ho Chi Minh.

e. Together with the aforesaid activities, it is necessary to launch a movement to emulate in scoring merits to greet the historical anniversaries of 1990 with specific and practical objectives and norms each year, beginning early this year.

f. Devise a plan to provide data on President Ho Chi Minh to countries in the world, and commemorate our Uncle's 100th birthday according to the UNESCO decision.

g. Commemorative activities must be practical, effective, and very thrifty, avoiding all forms of showiness and waste. They must be linked with the implementation of the sixth party congress resolution and the resolutions of the party Central Committee and its Political Bureau.

Defense Ministry Order on 'Strict Thrift' BK050939 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] The Defense Ministry has directed the entire Army to comply scrupulously with the Council of Ministers' decision on strict thrift, stipulating specifically the scope of thrifty practices in all activities of the Army and the goals and norms to be achieved. The thrifty use of gasoline and vehicles is an important requirement. Cars assigned to units at all levels must be centrally controlled and correctly used in accordance with regulations. Cars should not be used for commanders' personal use. They will be used only to assure the fulfillment of general command duty of units and agencies. It is prohibited to use vehicles for personal purposes, for hunting, for long-term temporary duty, and for long distance North-South transportation of freight. The public conveyance means of the state and rudimentary transport facilities must be fully used with a view to saving from 2 to 5% of the gasoline and oil allocation as a reserve. Cars will not be assigned personally to officers up to the rank of lieutenant general. Cars may be used by authorized personnel only to go to and from work and for short-term temporary duty trips. The use of buses to collectively pick up cadres to work must be closely, rationally, and conveniently organized. Foreign exchange will not be used to buy cars.

Since October 1987, thrift has been scrupulously practiced in various agencies of the Defense Ministry. Nearly all commanders in the joint general staff and general departments, general officers, and cadres in departments who live 1 to 2 km from their work stations have been walking or riding on their bicycles to work. As a result, some 12 to 15 cars that used to make four trips daily to take cadres to and from work, are now no longer needed.

Particularly, as of December 1987, some 6,750 liters of gasoline have been saved from the use of vehicles placed under the management control of the joint general staff. The 15-17 cars needed for routine performance of duty has been reduced to 10-12 cars.

Investments of Overseas Vietnamese Reported
BK050300 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT
4 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 4—A workshop specializing in processing food and farm produce for export was put into operation in Ho Chi Minh City in early January. This modern workshop was set up with an initial capital of two million U.S. dollars as investments from overseas Vietnamese companies in France.

The workshop will produce canned and refrigerated food and vegetables, fresh and dried vegetables and fruit, and preserve farm produce in grain form. Its export value is expected to reach from seven to eight million U.S. dollars.

The postal service of Ho Chi Minh City recently introduced to the market an electronic telephone switchboard known as digital Viet-200 assembled for the first time in the country within the framework of a cooperation program between the Vietnam General Department of Post and the Overseas Vietnamese VIBA Company in West Berlin.

A program of cooperation between the Spanish company TRANSCOMIN-86 and Ho Chi Minh City in a number of projects worth billions of U.S. dollars for a 5-year period was recently signed in Ho Chi Minh City. The TRANSCOMIN-86's capital investment accounts for 60 (sixty) percent.

These projects include the building of an oil refinery, a car-assembling plant, a medical center, a rolled-steel mill, a thermo-electric and solar energy center. Under the program, the city planned to purchase from Spanish companies a number of coastal and river transport ships.

Journal Reports on Goods Exchanges With PRK
BK050530 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0015 GMT 5 Feb 88

[“Article” from the “International Topics” program]

[Text] Dear friends: During the past years the exchange of goods between Vietnam and Cambodia has increased rapidly. This is a concrete manifestation of the comprehensive cooperation between the two countries. Following is an article carried recently by the NGOAI THUONG [FOREIGN TRADE] journal:

Goods exchange activity between Vietnam and Cambodia is not merely a trade relationship, but also a manifestation of a special sentiment between the two countries. The foundation of these relations has been strengthened by cooperation in the socioeconomic development of the two nations. Each side is now trying to satisfactorily fulfill its obligation toward the other. For this reason, the volume of goods exchange has been increasing very year. In 1987, the volume of Vietnamese export goods to Cambodia increased by 15% while imported goods from Cambodia increased by almost 47% over that of 1986.

The present volume of goods exchanged between the two nations is still meeting requirements of economic development programs and the people's consumption in each country, thus creating good examples and favorable conditions for developing SRV-PRK trade relations. The appropriate trade transactions between the two countries have created favorable conditions for mutual development of goods and exploitation of transportation facilities. As a result, many key goods exchanged between the two nations have increased considerably. For example, Vietnam has increased its cement exports to Cambodia by three times over that of 1986; fabric increased by 0.4 million meters while Cambodia increased its timber exports to Vietnam by 2,000 cubic meters; car tires, 1,000 pair; corn, 4,000 tonnes; beans 1,200 tonnes, and so forth.

Moreover, the special relationship and comprehensive cooperation between Vietnam and Cambodia have been strengthened by the close and direct relations between the Vietnam Import-Export to Cambodia Corporation and the three Cambodian foreign trade corporations—KAMPEXIM, (KAMPAEXOT), and (KAMPIMEXT). These corporations provide effective assistance to each other to solve obstacles arising from the goods exchanges process, especially in transportation and in receiving substandard goods. Particularly in dealing with urgent delivery of goods, these corporations have always striven to fulfill not only the plan norms set for 1987, but also some partial volumes set for 1988, thus meeting the requirement of goods for our Cambodian friends.

Moreover, the foreign trade sectors of the two countries, with the aim of improving the result of import-export activities, have organized activities to exchange experience, assigned specialists to help each other in the fields of foreign exchanges, in fixing prices for import-export goods, training of foreign trade cadres, studying regional activities, and establishing the structure of foreign trade organizations, and so forth.

To develop the foreign trade relations between the two countries satisfactorily, Vietnam and Cambodia signed a protocol in 1987 on goods exchanges and payments for 1988. Under this protocol, the goods exchange value between the two countries will increase by 28% over the previous year. Key Vietnamese products exported to

Cambodia include cement, clothes, machinery, agricultural equipment, spare parts, electronic items, and other consumer goods. Cambodia will export to Vietnam such produce as timber, corn, beans, tobacco, and oranges. However, we may expand more activities and increase the volume of export goods to Cambodia to help its shift to the socialist business and accounting system. Most importantly, we must create favorable conditions for business establishments to apply the method of maintaining a balance between import and export values to obtain higher results in their tasks.

Food Price Fluctuations in Cities Reported
BK051207 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] In the past several days, the prices for rice and other food supplies have been fluctuating in Hanoi and Haiphong. At times, many Hanoi food stores were running short of commodities while the price of rice on the black market soared, causing cadres and civilians to worry.

The Hanoi Municipal People's Committee has daily followed the reception of paddy supply from the central level, vigorously boosted paddy shipment from the rural area, and organized around-the-clock paddy processing in order to have enough rice for sale.

Greater efforts have also been made to oversee the purchase of slaughter hogs. This way we can guarantee sufficient meat for the daily meals of tens of thousands of workers now engaging in early spring rice cultivation and have enough meat for sale on the occasion of the coming 1988 Lunar New Year.

Priority has been given to cash payments for food supplies and slaughter hogs, including cash generated by daily business transactions and lottery ticket sales. Many active measures have been taken to encourage people to sell their slaughter hogs to the state. For example, buying prices have been reasonably readjusted, more than 10 commodities have been set aside for sale to the people, market management at village and district levels has been consolidated, and private dealers have been prohibited from competing with state-operated organs in the purchase of slaughter hogs.

As a result, the quantity of meat shipped to the urban area has increased with each passing day. Trade, food supply, and restaurant sectors have purchased a substantial amount of sticky rice, green beans, fish sauce, packed tea, and liquor for sale to cadres, workers, civil servants, and households on a quota basis and at reasonable prices.

A substantial quantity of sugar and food seasoning has been set aside for sale to a number of administrative and service bloc cadres and personnel.

Many measures have been taken by Haiphong to broaden the circulation of goods, thus creating conditions for producers to ship their farm produce and food and grain supplies to the urban area. The city people's committee has provided timely guidance to various districts outside the city and created favorable conditions for the shipment of inbound goods, thus preventing the practice of obstructing rivers and clamping down on markets, which eventually obstructs the circulation of goods.

Applying the self-supply mechanism, Haiphong has given first priority to the sales of food seasoning, pork, sugar, and green beans at low prices to administrative and service bloc cadres and personnel.

Army Journal Article on Role of Provinces
BK040919 Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN
in Vietnamese Nov 87, pp 50-53, 41

[Article by Colonel Hoang Cao: "On The Role of Provinces in the Cause of National Defense"]

[Text] The role of provinces in all-people national defense and in our people's war for national defense is viewed in our party's socialist revolutionary line, bearing in mind the topographical, political, and economic positions of provinces.

Our country has 40 provinces and cities with 15 provinces having an area of between 10,000 and 25,000 square km each and 24 provinces having an area of 5,000 square km or more each. Twenty-six provinces and cities have a population of between 1 million and 3.5 million each and another 7 provinces have an area of 10,000 square km and a population of 1 million or more each. Of these provinces and cities, 33 are situated along the border or coast.

Geographically, our country is long and narrow with some provinces being very narrow (50-60 km) and criss-crossed by rivers and canals. Most of the rivers and canals flow from the north, particularly from the jungled mountains at the northeastern border, toward the sea, dividing the terrain of a number of provinces into isolated areas.

At present, six provinces at the northern border are having constantly to cope with the enemy's hostile military activities. The remaining provinces and cities are all characterized by being either frontline provinces directly responsible for organizing the safeguarding and defense of the fatherland's land border and territorial waters within their respective areas or being behind-frontline provinces responsible for building up and safeguarding the rear and for providing assistance to the northern, western, and southwestern border battlefields to fulfill their national and international obligations.

Politically, our people of various nationalities living together for many generations in various localities are all imbued with the tradition of 4,000 years of national construction, defense, crop production, and fighting the enemy. This traditional strength has been accumulated among millions of people who have been organized into provinces and cities with a perfect political, economic, cultural, social, scientific, technological, security, national defense, foreign relations structure.

A province or a city is a unit under the direct jurisdiction of the central government. It receives policy guidelines from the central government in providing direct leadership for its districts, precincts, and establishments. It has an abundant source of manpower needed for constant contributions to the central government. It is a territorial administrative organization with a great strength and abundant potential.

Economically, in the initial stage of the transition to socialism in our country, a province is the highest level in executing the policies of building local economies, combining local economic construction with national defense, undertaking the technical revolution, redistributing manpower, specializing in production activities, creating special spearhead economic sectors for each locality, accelerating the rate of capital accumulation and gathering for expansion of production in the locality, and building up the economic and national defense potential for the benefit of the locality concerned and as a contribution to the central government.

Today, compared with the time of the liberation war, the economic, material, and technical potential needed for national defense of a number of provinces is much greater. If we know how to exploit the strengths of the entire province, we can resolve many problems regarding production, consumption, the building of the material bases of socialism, and the combining of local economic construction with national defense in a drastic and comprehensive manner compatible with the existing scope of production and social structure.

A province can build a large self-defense militia force with tens of thousands of members. It can also set up many regiments and divisions with tens of thousands of men to fight locally and further tens of thousands of men to be used to replenish other areas in the country.

With such a potential, our provinces, no matter where they are located, must also closely combine economic construction with national defense and build for themselves a force strong enough to stand fast where it is to fight independently or in coordination with main force units in defending their localities under all circumstances.

Provinces must truly serve as a defense zone, assume the task of defending an area under the general defense plan of relevant military regions and of the entire country,

carry out military rear support work, build a comprehensive and perfect system of all-people national defense, and serve as the highest-level unit in locally carrying out the people's war as well as wars involving main force units.

Provinces along the border must assume the task of providing forward defense while achieving combat coordination with divisional groups or multidivisional groups in organizing defense under a general defense plan of relevant military regions.

Each of our provinces must, and can, defeat an enemy multidivisional group or a joint enemy force comprising a couple of divisions once it intrudes into the province, thereby fulfilling the combat mission of local units in intercepting the enemy and decimating its strength, in slowing down or containing the movement of its troops, and in cutting the enemy's combat formations or diverting its combat strength. This way, we will put the enemy in a chaotic and dangerously stalemated situation and prevent him from attacking other provinces. It is necessary to take the intruders on the front, flank, and rear and to always stand ready to foil the enemy's strategic attempts to use warships or aircraft to land troops at our rear. We must wipe out or capture reconnaissance and ranger teams sent in for sabotage purposes and must smash all attempts to create disturbances or instigate riots. Each province must strive to be self-sufficient in its own defense plan and contribute to the general defense plan.

This way, under wartime circumstances, all provinces will be able to foil the enemy's small-scale strategic troop landing operations performed with the support of warships or aircraft, fight independent battles, become self-sufficient in their own defense plans, and contribute to the general defense plan. At the same time, they will also be able to make full use of their overall potential in supporting the frontline and meeting higher echelons' demands.

Due to their role and capabilities, those in charge of provincial defense plans must try by all means to establish political security and public order, satisfactorily control and protect border and coastal areas, and foil the enemy's infiltration and acts of sabotage. It is necessary to make proper preparations so everyone can stand ready for combat as soon as possible, especially in border or coastal provinces and districts. When the enemy comes, we must promptly attack him and decimate his strength. Efforts must be made to limit the enemy-controlled area and to create every favorable condition for us to launch counterattacks to wipe out the enemy. We must try by all means to foil the enemy's attempts to establish the puppet army and administration. It is important for us to satisfactorily coordinate production with combat and to make full use of manpower and material resources to constantly develop our strength and meet higher echelons' demands.

Strategic leadership organs must correctly realize the importance of provinces, correctly determine a table of organization and equipment for them, and build them up and use them according to their capabilities and specialty in strategic and tactical planning and in combat.

A military region is a territorial multidivisional group. Organizationally, a military region usually has two categories of forces, namely mobile divisional groups or a multidivisional group and the local forces of various provinces and cities. The art of the tactical planning of a military region consists of closely combining local people's war with war involving main force units. This is an art of leadership in achieving close cooperation and coordination to develop the combined strength of the two categories of forces or two means of combat. This is to attain the highest combat and tactical effectiveness.

The province is a local unit in the territory directly belonging to a military region; and the defensive combat position of a province is part of the military region's combat array. Reality requires that the military region effects guidance and command over the provincial level according to its functions as a directly higher military echelon in a comprehensive manner, with regard to both construction and combat as well as to theories and actions.

Only with strong provinces can the military region become strong and fulfill all its military tasks successfully.

An army corps is a mobile, multidivisional main-force group; it does not have local units within its organization. An army corps campaign is a campaign involving coordinated actions among the various armed branches conducted by a mobile, multidivisional main-force group. Nevertheless, an army corps campaign is always conducted within a defined space or a certain territory. Therefore, upon assigning tasks to an army corps, the military region or the ministry always clearly specifies the space of combat—namely the territory wherein the army corps must enter into coordination with the locality which is the permanent master of that territory. The operational area of an army corps campaign usually covers two to three districts in a province. The local armed forces in that area must coordinate with the army corps and place themselves under the latter's unified guidance and command so as to generate the greatest strength with which to defeat the enemy.

The army corps must clearly see that preparations for defensive combat that are made by a province in peacetime are aimed not only at priming that locality for combat alone but also at readying the battlefield for main-force divisional groups and preparing itself for combat coordination with an army corps campaign when it is launched in the province. To develop fully the aggregate strength for a campaign, the Army corps must closely coordinate with the provinces, provide them with

assistance, and contribute to their development even in peacetime; and must effect unified and coordinated actions and fully bring into play all the might and strong points of the local forces during the campaign.

The true essence of local defense at the provincial level is to make preparations for, and conduct, an all-out people's war in the province. This is the duty of all the party, people, and armed forces, as well as of the entire system of proletarian dictatorship in the province under the unified, direct, and overall leadership of the provincial party committee. Therefore, a province can only become strong in national defense with powerful forces and a firm position and develop the people's war to a high degree when the leadership of the provincial party committee is of a high quality. To achieve this we must above all give due attention to, and closely combine, the two strategic tasks and correctly realize the importance of the local people's war and the war conducted by main-force divisional groups while closely linking them together in the military policy of the provincial party committee. At the same time, it is necessary constantly to develop and strictly maintain a pattern and system of military leadership for the provincial party committee. At its regular meetings, the provincial party committee should assess the situation and adopt resolutions on military affairs and on local military duties assigned by the Ministry of National Defense and the military region.

The quality of the provincial party committee's leadership over military tasks can only be high when members of the committee have the necessary knowledge of military affairs. Therefore, attention must be given to providing party committee members at all levels and cadres of the various sectors with training in military subjects, and to improving their knowledge of military lines, military strategies, local people's warfare, local military tasks, and the organization of local defense at the provincial level so that every one of them will be capable of proposing correct policies regarding military leadership, closely combining national defense with economic construction and vice versa, linking military tasks to the activities of the various branches and circles in the province, and guiding preparations for war in peacetime.

Experience gained from actual combat activities in the border provinces and from military exercises organized in recent years at the provincial, Army corps, and military region levels shows that the material and spiritual strength mobilized for combat at the provincial level is very great indeed. However, this will only be possible when the provincial administration truly cares to muster the strength of the entire province in accordance with a unified plan that is designed to develop and maintain that strength in peacetime and mobilize it in time of war.

It is necessary to renovate and change our thinking in cadre work and in the formation of local military organs. Insufficient knowledge and superficial understanding of local military tasks and the network of local military organs has made these organs and the contingent of local

military cadres at the provincial and municipal levels incompatible with the requirements of their role and tasks. It is necessary to develop a correct understanding of a series of fundamental issues involving the position, functions, tasks, organization, work system...of local military organs in the new situation so as to suit the new conditions of the all-people national defense system and of the war for national defense.

Members of local military organs at the provincial and municipal levels must strive to study intensively in order to improve their command-staff capability as well as their capacity for carrying out local military tasks and national defense duties in the localities, to obtain a necessary knowledge of economics, and to satisfactorily combine economic construction with national defense within each province. They must train hard so as to be able to efficiently and independently direct defensive combat operations in defense of their own localities; and at the same time, to firmly grasp the various forms of campaigns conducted by main-force divisional groups and proficiently effect close coordination between the province's combat activities and army corps campaigns launched locally.

Radio Reports on Party Purification Campaign
BK041449 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] To date, all provinces and special zones have embarked on the campaign to purify the party organization and state machinery, enhance their militancy, and ameliorate social relations. Almost all organs and sectors at the central level and party organizations of various blocs and provinces have disseminated the objectives, requirements, and substance of the campaign to grass-roots units and many provinces have expanded the campaign to party members. Party committee echelons in those provinces and cities serving as pilot projects have expanded the campaign to the masses. They are also reviewing the qualifications of key cadres in an effort to deal promptly with a number of cases, both old and new, involving negativism which have attracted public attention.

The Military Commission of the party Central Committee is planning to provide close and specific guidance for all work that must be done in the first stage of the campaign as well as to promptly furnish experience for redressing shortcomings in the conduct of the campaign.

Meanwhile, party committees of all provinces have finished reviewing work related to self-criticism and criticism among all collectives, individuals, and party committee members. Thanks to their relatively close guidance, a number of party committee echelons have obtained some good results from this work.

Hanoi Municipality has expanded the campaign to include a number of establishments of various industrial units in the rural areas. The municipal party committee

is closely guiding the campaign. The committee has also arranged for all wards, districts, and subordinate party organizations to brief it on the situation of the campaign every Thursday.

As of late December 1987, more than 90% of party members in Hai Hung Province had studied to seek a thorough understanding of the party Central Committee Political Bureau's resolution on this campaign. The provincial party committee has selected 17 pilot projects for the campaign and assigned 35 cadres to work at these projects. In reviewing the qualifications of 491 city and district party committee members, the provincial party committee found that 83.8% of them are good while 16.2% are subject to investigation or disciplinary action.

In some localities such as Nam Thanh, Ninh Thanh, Chi Linh, and Hung Yen city, a number of key cadres at grass-roots level have been replaced due to poor quality and many shortcomings. The standing body of the Hai Hung provincial party committee has instructed the Chau Giang District party committee to solve definitively various existing problems at Dong Tien village.

Hoang Lien Son Province has carried out the campaign along with responding to the column on "Things that must be done immediately," by settling all complaints and denunciations lodged by cadres, party members, and the masses. According to a report from Hoang Lien Son, various sectors and echelons in this province have so far settled 89% of the number of complaints and denunciations.

While conducting the campaign in the recent past, Hoang Lien Son has promptly examined and dealt with some major cases at the Muong Khuong district material supply corporation and the construction material supply corporation. It has also stepped up the task of receiving the people, fixed times for political debate, and sent leading and managerial cadres to various grass-roots units to meet and get into conversation with the masses.

Combining the campaign with the implementation of the party Central Committee Secretariat's directives on criticism and self-criticism, Ho Chi Minh City has rearranged the management machinery, streamlined staff personnel, and discussed plans for 1988.

The city party committee has laid stress on the need to renovate thinking and apply business methods that can bring about good results. It has also pointed out the need to clarify the substance of the pros and cons and pay attention to conducting the campaign, first, among the higher echelons and, later, among the lower echelons and dividing it into small steps such as gathering the masses' suggestions and reviewing, investigating, reaching a conclusion on, and taking action against certain cases of negativism.

Quang Nam-Danang Province has arranged for three-fourths of the total number of local party members to study the resolution on the campaign. Some localities have expanded the campaign to members of the youth union and other mass organizations. The province and all its districts have set up steering committees, which consist of party committee standing members, which are placed under direct responsibility of party committee deputy secretaries.

To carry out the campaign intensively, the Minh Hai provincial party committee has resolutely dealt with various matters that have been left unsettled for many years and promptly reviewed and dealt with new cases of negativism. The standing body of the provincial party committee has decided to expel from the party, and to request that the responsible administrative organs dismiss and take legal action against five directors and department heads for taking advantage of their positions and powers to confer privilege and special treatment on themselves, seriously violate economic law, persecute cadres, and cause disunity.

All provinces, cities, and special zones as well as all organs and sectors at the central level are striving to make a preliminary summing up of the first phase of this major campaign of the party by the end of the first quarter of 1988.

Party Paper Views Current Issues, Events

DPRK-ROK Talks Proposal

BK031051 Hanoi VNA in English 0720 GMT
3 Feb 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 3—The daily NHAN DAN today voices full support for a new reasonable proposal advanced by the Democratic People's Republic [of Korea] and demands that the Washington and Seoul administrations respond to it in order to gradually bring peace and national reunification to Korea, meeting the legitimate aspiration of the Korean people in North and South Korea

In a commentary, NHAN DAN says:

"For many years now, the United States has turned the southern part of the Korean peninsula into a huge military base. The presence of 40,000 U.S. troops and hundreds of military depots and projects and other war equipment, including about one thousand nuclear warheads indicates that the United States intends not only to prolong its occupation of South Korea, but also to prepare, together with other reactionary forces, a war against the DPR of Korea, menacing peace and security in the region."

"In the face of this situation," NHAN DAN goes on, "the DPR of Korea always upholding its correct position and goodwill has repeatedly put forth constructive proposals for national reunification. Of late, the DPR of

Korea has advanced a new proposal for ending all large-scale military exercises, particularly the Team Spirit joint exercises between the United States and South Korea, holding talks on disarmament and convening a North-South joint conference on national reconciliation and concord." "This proposal," the paper notes, "conforms to the desire of the entire Korean people for the holding of a dialogue between North and South Korea to resolve all existing problems."

"By continuing to make fabrications and provocations against the DPRK, the Washington and Seoul authorities have exposed their stubborn intent to pursue confrontation thereby causing tension and opposing the common trend of our time," NHAN DAN says in conclusion.

Tax Collection in Agriculture

BK030639 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
23 Jan 88 p 1

[Editorial: "Correctly and Fully Collect Agricultural Tax"]

[Text] Agricultural taxes constitute an important and relatively stable source of revenue which contributes to balancing the grain and financial situation of the state.

As many localities and primary installations have correctly acknowledged the contents of the regulations on agricultural taxes, after each harvest the people have organized to pay taxes to the state expeditiously and completely. The revenues from agricultural taxes for several years have averaged between 8.7 and 5.67% of the total grain production volume respectively in the Bac Bo Plain and Mekong River Delta provinces. If compared to the requirement of the agricultural taxation policy to mobilize 10% of the total grain output, the aforesaid results are still low.

The two important steps in ensuring correct and full collection of taxes are, first, to determine correctly the area and category of land and, on this basis, determine the yield and production volume, and, second, establish a tax collection register. According to survey data of the General Department of Land and Ricefields, there are 5.378 million hectares of cultivable land countrywide every year, but the taxable area amounts to only 4.317 million hectares. One million hectares or more have not been taxed each year. This is a considerable loss of taxes. There are now more than 800,000 hectares of perennial plants but only 42% of this area can be taxed.

The determination and classification of land for calculating taxes to be levied on annual crops, as well as the determination of production volume or value for taxing perennial plants, are not relevant to the soil quality and the yielding capacity of crops grown on taxable land. This fact has not only led to failure to secure revenues for the state budget but also leads to unfairness among

various regions, localities, and individual users of cultivated land in the payment of agricultural taxes. Of more concern is the situation of accumulated taxes owed by many localities throughout the country for several years. The amount of taxes owed by localities over the past 4 years has reached 238,000 tonnes, including 214,000 tonnes owed by the southern provinces. Of the 40 provinces and cities, 36 have not paid all their agricultural tax. Some provinces still owe up to 68,000 tonnes. This situation has exacerbated the problem of balancing grain distribution to meet the various planned requirements and has belittled seriousness in enforcing regulations on agricultural taxation.

The recently promulgated law on land has asserted the duty of all collectives and individuals using land to pay agricultural taxes. To resolve the problems of agricultural tax losses and debts expeditiously, it is necessary, first of all, to register all taxable land. The adjustment and classification of land according to its quality is a premise for establishing a tax register and serves the purpose of encouraging collectives and individuals to use land fully and effectively for production. At the same time, it ensures fair and rational contributions for all grain producers, for families growing perennial plants, and for those who use a large area of cultivated land and those who use a small area.

All party committee echelons, the administration at all levels, and sectors involved should renovate their procedures for guiding and organizing the collection of agricultural taxes. They should control the establishment of tax registers; guide and institution ~~the~~ all rules, systems, and regulations on the agricultural taxation profession; definitively settle the collection of debts accumulated over the past years; and henceforth fully collect taxes to be levied each crop season. The review and approval of agricultural tax exemption and reduction must ensure fairness and accuracy, and should not be handled inconsiderately. Moreover, all cases of violation against policies, embezzlement of tax money or rice, or intentional delay in paying taxes should be promptly dealt with. The organizational apparatus of the taxation sector, especially in villages and districts, should be consolidated. Incompetent and irresponsible taxation cadres who violate financial management discipline should be replaced. These are the conditions for guaranteeing satisfactory fulfillment of the agricultural taxation task.

Economic Role in Agriculture

BK031439 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
20 Jan 88 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Bring Into Play the Aggregate Strength of All Economic Components To Develop the Production of Agricultural Goods"]

[Text] The process of transforming old production relations or establishing new production relations in the field of agriculture is one of revolutionary change, in which the existence of many economic components constitutes

an objective truth. This represents one of the fundamental characteristics of the economy in our country, which is in the period of transition to large-scale socialist production. It is our party's policy to combine transformation with construction, using the latter as the main factor, with the aim of using and developing the efficacy of all economic components—with those in the state-operated and collective sectors playing the key and decisive role in exploiting in the most rational way the country's arable land, manpower, and existing material and technical bases—so as to develop agriculture comprehensively and firmly, thus helping to carry out successfully the major economic programs.

Thoroughly understanding the renovating spirit of the resolution of the sixth party congress and other directives and resolutions of the party and state, in many regions and localities new factors and models of autonomy in production and business have emerged among state-operated and collective agricultural, forestry, and fishery economic units, making it possible for them to achieve and expand joint venture relations, and integrate with, use, and manage other economic components. Thanks to this, the production capabilities of various economic components have been mobilized to advance agricultural production in the direction of specialized and intensive cultivation and multicropping. These new factors reflect more clearly the combination of agriculture, forestry, and fishery with various handicraft branches and trades, the combination of production with processing, distribution, and circulation, and the gradual elimination of the mechanism of subsidy-based management and the shifting of all economic activities to socialist accounting and business. By offering regular employment to laborers in the rural areas, they can help quickly increase marketable agricultural products and alter the living environment step by step, thus contributing directly to the improvement of production and living conditions.

However, these new factors and models remain small in number and still have been unable to shape a network of economic integration among various components and create an aggregate strength on the agricultural front. In the process of transforming or establishing new production relations, we still fail to understand fully the role and position of each economic component. For many years now, the state-operated, collective, and family economic sectors and other economic components have not closely associated with each other, and, at times, have even opposed each other. The state-operated agricultural, forestry, and fishery economic sector is still heavily affected by formalism. The area of land placed at its disposal is too vast and does not suit the socioeconomic conditions and its production orientations and crop allocation are characterized by narrow specialization. The failure of this sector to pay attention to joint production-business operation in combination with local socioeconomic conditions and population has compelled it to part from, and even to oppose, other economic components. The collective economic sector, which

includes agricultural, forestry, and fishery cooperatives and production collectives, has been set up with little capital and poorly equipped material and technical bases and is engaged mainly in production under the one-crop system. For many years now, a large number of cooperatives and production collectives have failed to determine correctly the steps for their operation that suit the specific conditions of each region, branch or trade, and, at times, have even mistaken the substance of collectivization of the means of production for that of cooperativization. These cooperatives and production collectives have also paid less attention to fostering cooperation and integration in the field of production in combination with general business and the production of diverse goods under numerous forms. The family economic sector, an integral component of the socialist economy and individual economy, has enormous potential in terms of manpower, capital, production experience, and traditional workmanship. However, attention has not yet been paid to guiding, organizing, and using this sector correctly.

In transforming or establishing new production relations, it is necessary for all localities, sectors, and grassroots units to understand thoroughly the guidelines concerning the use of various economic components in the field of production; they must bring into play their dynamism and creativity, and select and expand various forms of integration and joint venture right in production and business activities among these economic components themselves on the principle of voluntariness,

equality, and mutual benefit through various economic contracts. We can practice integration and cooperation among various production units in the same village, among various joint production collectives, between marketing cooperatives and credit cooperatives, and between agricultural cooperatives and family economic components and individual peasants from production, processing, and capital accumulation to the consumption of products. We can, on a district or interdistrict scale, practice integration between the state-operated, collective, and family economic sectors and individuals in contributing capital and effort for developing animal husbandry, carrying out afforestation, planting short-term and long-term industrial crops, raising shrimps, building farm-product processing installations, and exchanging products and goods among various regions. All localities should closely organize integration between state-run production and service units and cooperatives, production collectives, and family and other economic components, with the state-run units retaining the leading role.

Along with renovating the mechanism of management in production, the state should quickly promulgate and enforce concrete policies to encourage various economic components to contribute jointly capital, manpower, materials, and production experience for intensive cultivation and the development of agriculture, forestry, and fishery so as to produce a large volume of goods.

Australia

Immigration Minister Announces Resignation

*BK080619 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 8 Feb 88*

[Text] The Australian minister for immigration, Mr Mick Young, has announced his resignation from Parliament. Mr Young, involved in a controversy last week over a donation of \$10,000 [Australian] by a Japanese wood chip company to the governing Australian Labor Party [ALP], accused the media of journalistic overkill in covering the story. He said it had been demonstrated that he was innocent of any wrongdoing in the matter.

Mr Young, who is also president of the ALP, said his decision to resign from the ministry and Parliament followed 4 days of discussions with his family. He also said he had discussed the matter with the prime minister, Mr Hawke, who although disagreeing with the decision, respected his wishes.

The announcement of Mr Young's resignation comes after an embarrassing defeat for the government in a by-election for a federal parliamentary seat in Adelaide on Saturday. Mr Young's electorate is also in Adelaide.

Fiji

Amnesty for Political Offenders Announced

*BK071038 Hong Kong AFP in English 1031 GMT
7 Feb 88*

[Text] Suva, Feb 7 (AFP)—Fiji's interim civilian government announced Friday [5 February] that it was granting immunity from prosecution to an unspecified number of people charged with committing political offences against the state last year.

The government also said it would reduce the jail sentences of 162 prison inmates by three months, an Information Ministry statement said.

The statement said the two acts of clemency were being made to mark the declaration of Fiji as a republic four months ago.

Names of the political offenders to be granted immunity from criminal and civil prosecution will be published in an "Amnesty and Immunity Decree," signed by President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, to be gazetted Monday.

Immunity will be granted to "political offenders against the state" for crimes perpetrated between the April elections and October 7, the statement said, without defining a "political offence."

Observers said Apisai Tora, a minister in past Alliance Party governments and in the present administration who was charged with sedition over a post-election speech, would likely benefit from the government move.

The three-month general amnesty will apply to all prisoners who began sentences before October 7.

The statement said a full pardon would be given to people released on conditional pardons after serving part of a life sentence, and "lifers" who had been in jail for at least nine years.

But a man charged in connection with the attempted hijacking of an Air New Zealand jet at Nadi a week after the first military coup in Fiji last May will not benefit from the amnesty, it said.

Rules on Foreign Journalists Tightened

*BK050202 Hong Kong AFP in English 1744 GMT
5 Feb 88*

[Text] Suva, Feb 4 (AFP)—Foreign journalists wanting to work in Fiji will need permission from the government under new regulations announced by the Information Ministry here Thursday.

Previously journalists were granted 14-day visitors' visas and could work in the South Pacific island nation like other overseas business people.

The ministry said in a statement Thursday that the new measures were necessary in part because many people had arrived in Fiji posing as journalists but were not authorised by the media organisations they claimed to represent.

The statement said overseas journalists must now first apply to the Fiji mission in their home country, or direct to the Information Ministry in Suva for permission to work under a visitor's permit.

With the application must be a letter of authorisation from their general manager or editor, accreditation and their program.

The Fiji mission would check the authenticity of the application and send it to the director of information in Suva.

The Information Ministry would then consult the Home Affairs Ministry (the issuing authority for visas) and notify the Fiji mission of the decision.

The ministry also said Fiji journalists travelling to countries such as Australia, New Zealand and the United States had to obtain visas first.

Several hundred overseas journalists have visited Fiji in the past nine months following two military coups last year.

Nauru

President Confirms USSR Diplomatic Ties
BK040745 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0700 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Nauru and the Soviet Union have established diplomatic relations. Nauru's president, Mr Hammer de Roburt, confirmed a report from the Soviet news agency, TASS, that the announcement had been made in a recent speech by the president on the anniversary of central Pacific island's independence.

The president said Nauru was nonaligned, but desired friendly relations with all nations, even those with ideologies with which it did not agree.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS says there has been no announcement about accreditation of diplomats between Nauru and the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union's ambassador in Canberra is also accredited to a number of South Pacific island nations.

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